

THE LARKIN IDEA

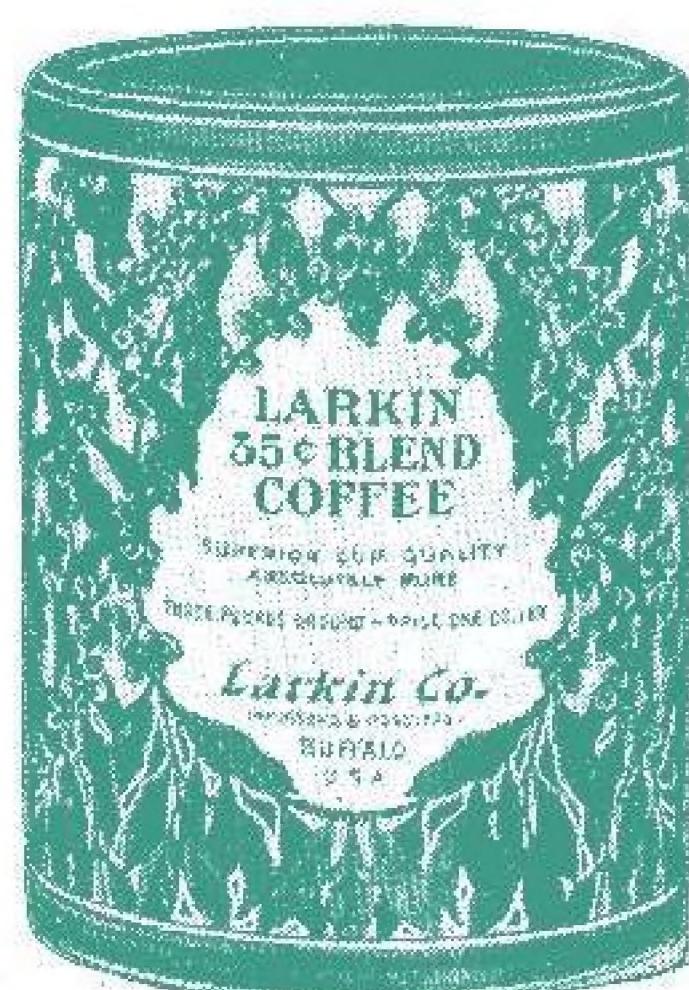
•APRIL•
NUMBER 1905

50
CENTS
A
YEAR

COPYRIGHT 1905
BY
Larkin Co.

Larkin Pure Food Products

LARKIN 35c. BLEND COFFEE



Ground.

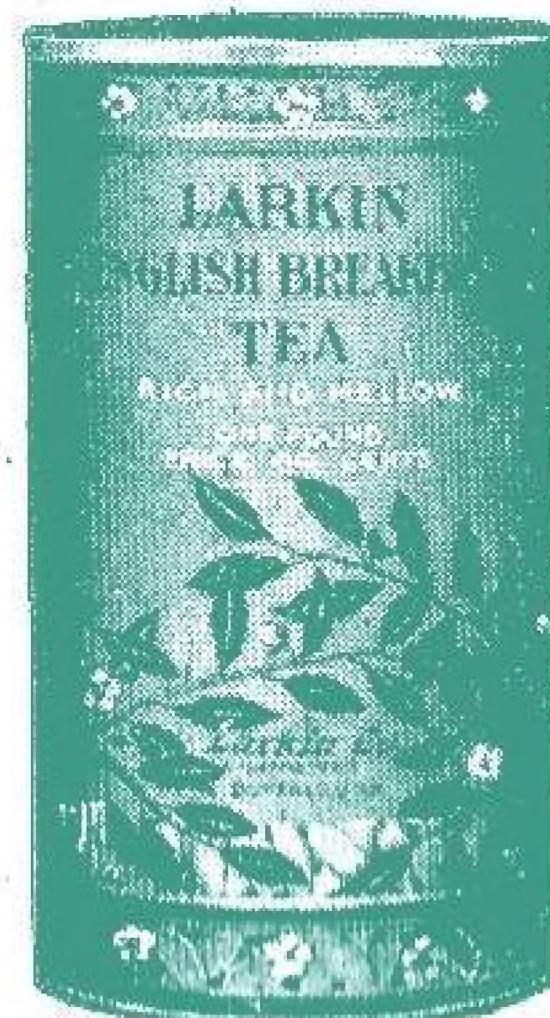
Our own special blend, which is of superior cup quality, combining fine flavor and delicate aroma.

Price, 1-lb. can,
35c.; 3-lb. can,
\$1.00.

LARKIN TEAS

Carefully selected from high-grade importations; full, rich flavor.

Ceylon
English Breakfast
Formosa Oolong
Green Japan
Mixed
In 1-lb. cans, each
60c. (See page 2.)



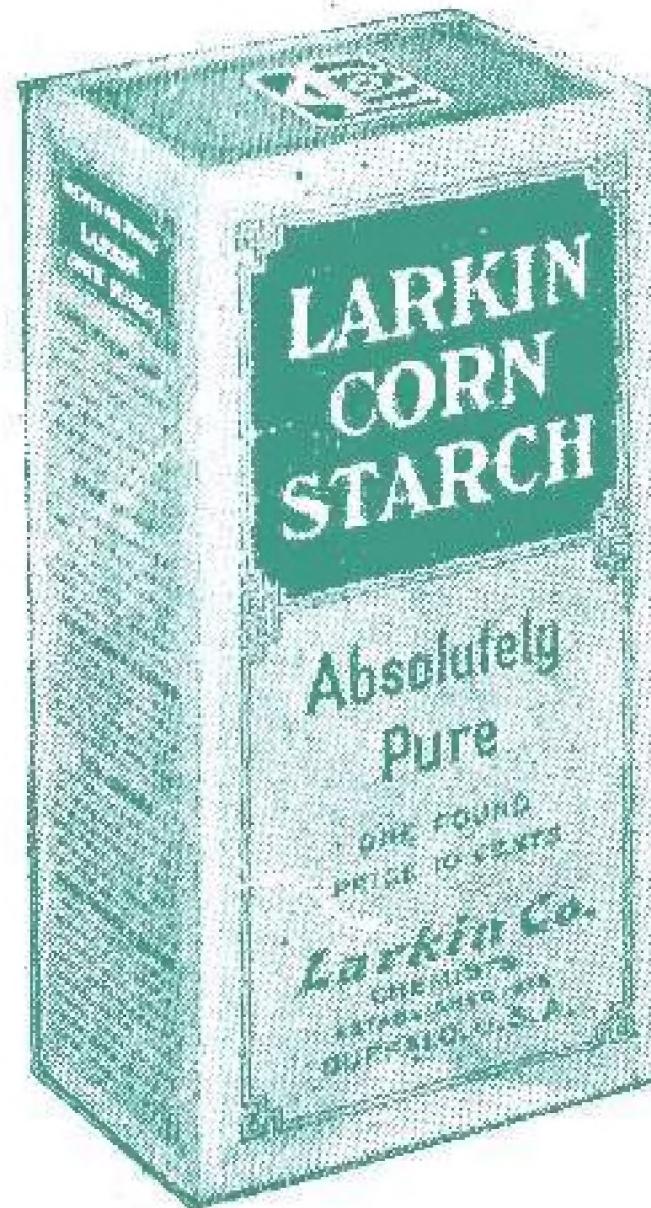
LARKIN OLIVE OIL



A genuine, virgin oil from prime, ripe, French-grown olives. Superior to Italian olive oil. Our direct importation.

Full half-pint bottle, 40c.

LARKIN CORN STARCH



A superior starch, of true delicious corn flavor.
In 1-lb. package, 10c.

LARKIN FLAVORING EXTRACTS

Finest quality; highest concentration; distinguished for flavor and strength.

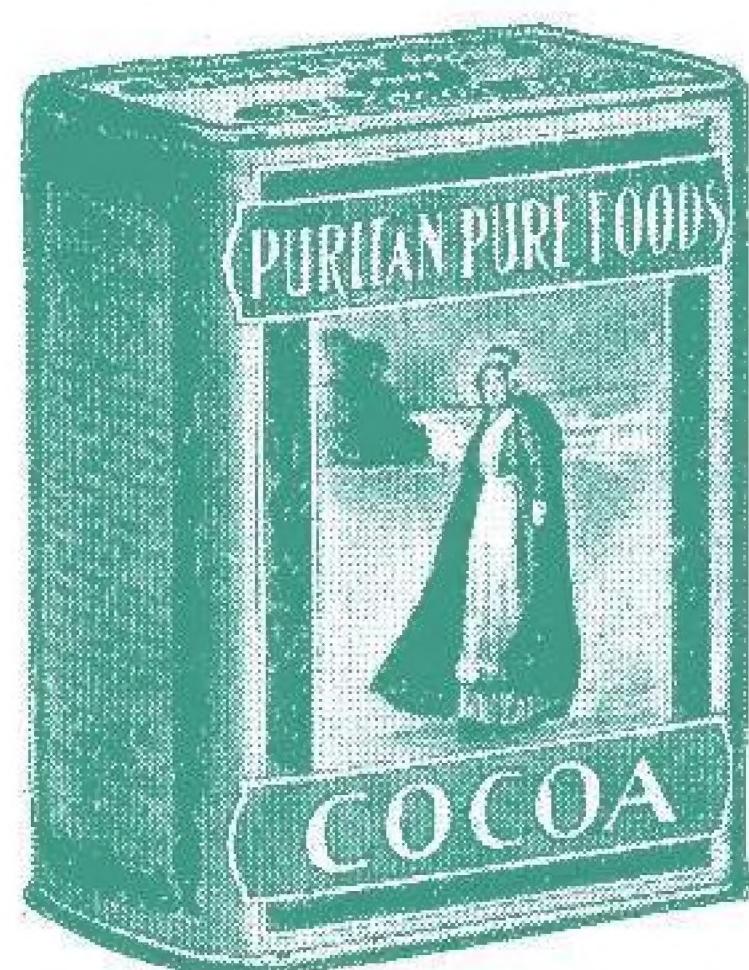
Vanilla
Lemon
Orange
Almond
Rose
Wintergreen
Celery



In 2-oz. bottles, each 25c.

PURITAN PURE COCOA

Unsurpassed in richness and delicacy of flavor. Nutritious and easily digested.
Half-pound can, 30c.



PURITAN PURE CHOCOLATE

Sweetened and Unsweetened.

Soluble, smooth; the finest and best that can be made.

Sweetened, $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. cake, 10c. Unsweetened, $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cake, 25c.

LARKIN BAKING POWDER



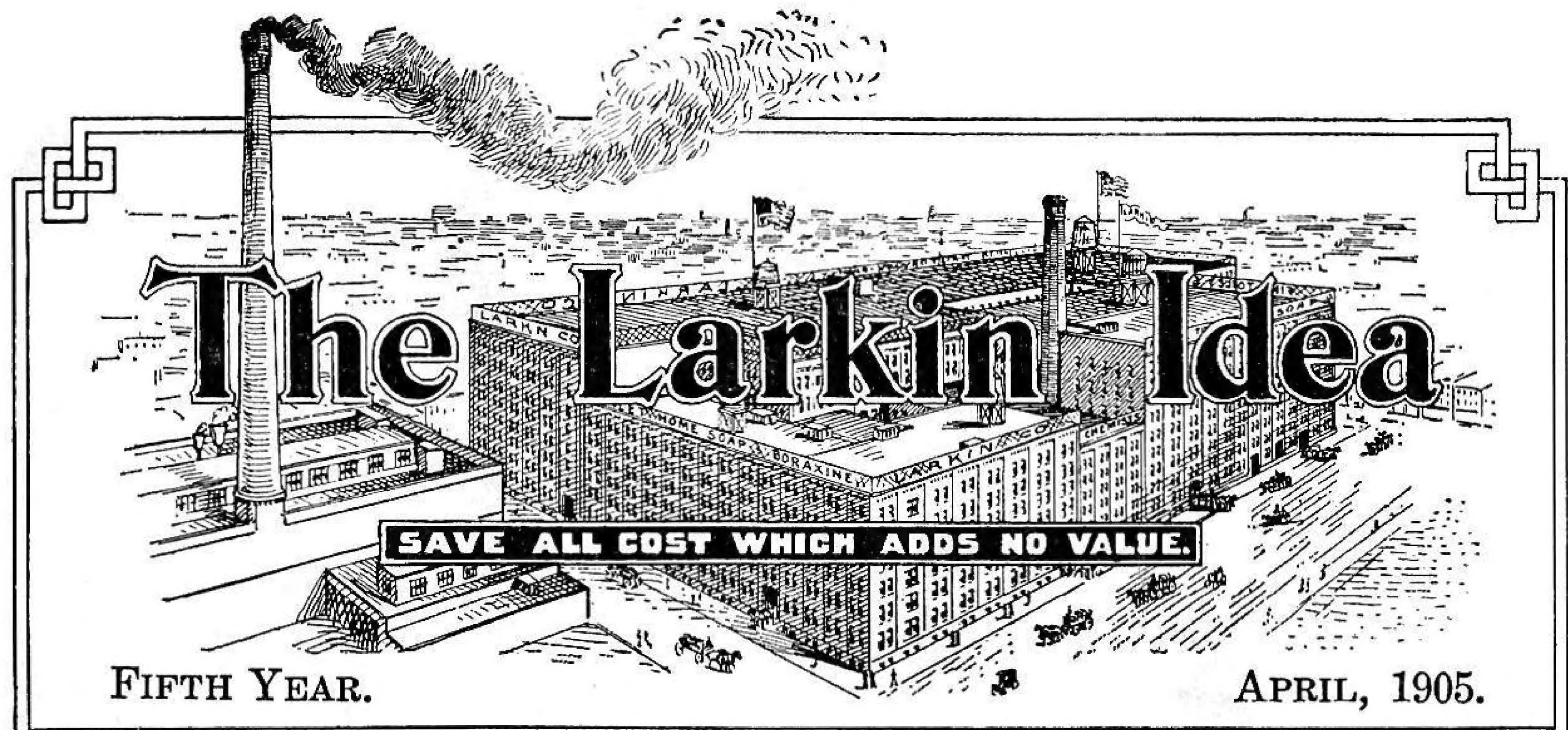
Scientifically compounded from purest materials. Possesses greater strength than most baking powders.
Half-pound can, 25c.

Larkin Street,

Larkin Co.

Buffalo, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED, 1875.



HOUSE-CLEANING TIME.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Many a time I've wished that fortune led my feet afar from home.
Longed to visit heathen islands, and with Hottentots to roam.
Envied Crusoe in his cabin, far from women folks and free
From the spring-and-fall affliction that's the lot of men like me.
Oh, the sight of carpets dangling from the line would make me feel
That this life was scarce worth living, and I never could conceal
Grief that always overcame me with discouragement sublime
When the house was topsy-turvy at the old house-cleaning time.

If I wanted this or that thing, it was never to be found.

"Why,—it's queer!" they'd say. "We're certain that it's lying somewhere 'round."

Somewhere—yes, 'twas very likely, but not one of them could say
Where that "somewhere" was, or help me, save in a most helpless way.
We would eat from trunks and boxes, picked-up dinners, dry and scant.
If we spoke of pie or pudding, they would squelch us with "We can't
Spend the precious time in cooking," and they'd add, with cheek sublime,
"Men don't show the sense of goslings, when it comes house-cleaning time."

Oh, the misery that made me wish I were an ab'rigine,
With a blanket and a feather, and a tomahawk quite free,
When they made us pound the carpets till our eyes were full of dust,
And unspoken thoughts within made us think of things that bust.
And the stove-pipes! Lord forgive us for the thoughts that filled us then!
But the preacher would have pardoned—and, perhaps, have said "Amen!"
To the sentiments unuttered—had it been his lot to climb
Up and down our old step-ladder, with that pipe, at cleaning-time!

But we dread the spring no longer, and the thought of nearing fall
Does not fill us with forebodings that turn happiness to gall;
For, since women-folk are using Larkin Soaps, throughout the year,
'Tis a very easy matter—so, at least, it would appear—
To keep everything so tidy, and so sweet, and fresh, and clean,
That there is no need of tearing all things upside down between
Every six months of the season, and I end my homely rhyme
With a cheer for Mr. Larkin, and the new house-cleaning time.

Larkin Teas Are Ready.

FIVE VARIETIES, 60c. A POUND.



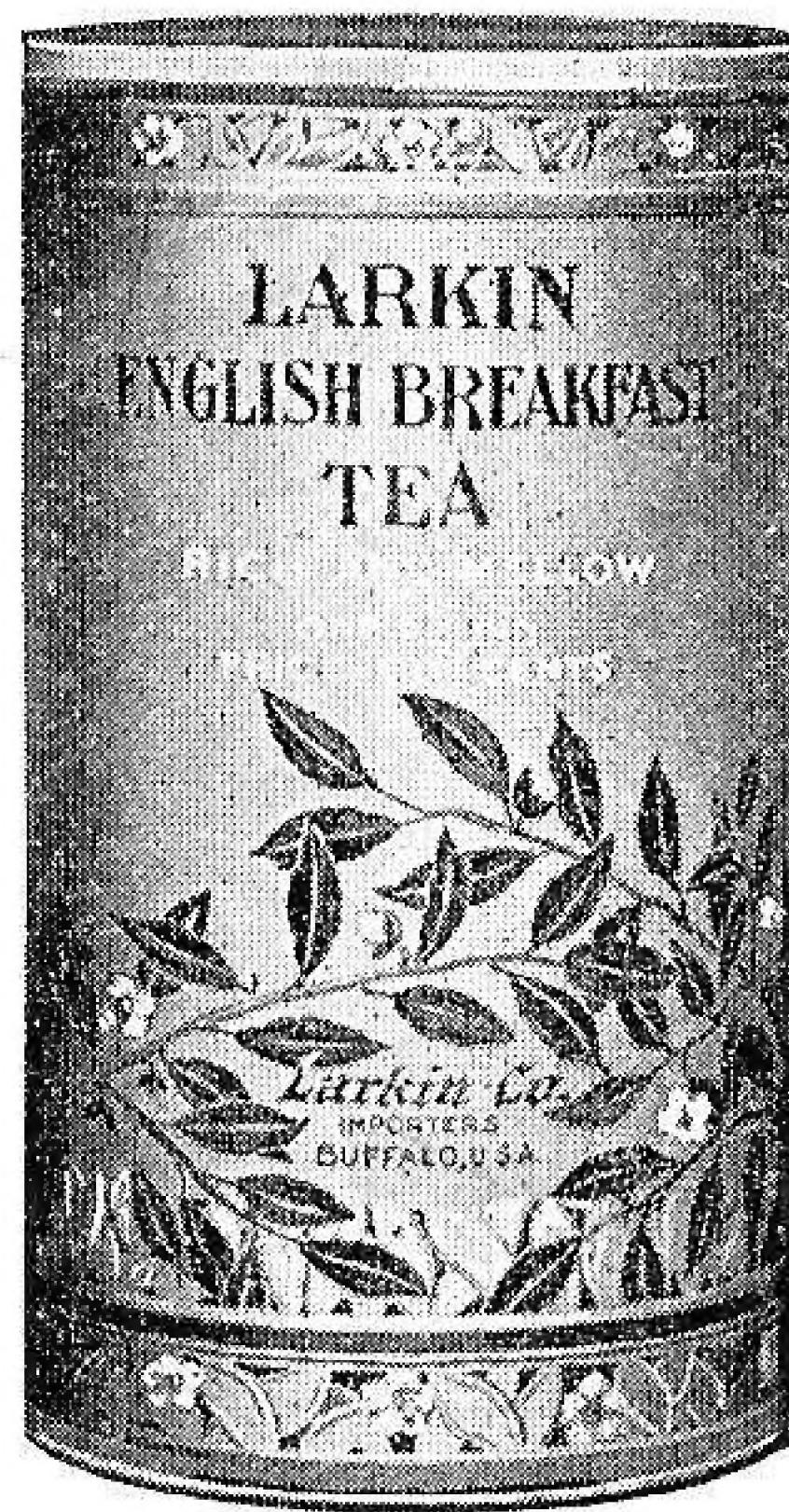
To THE purchase of all three of the great domestic beverages, Coffee, Tea and Cocoa, the Larkin Idea of Factory-to-Family dealing is applicable, now that teas have been added to the list of Larkin Products.

Likes and dislikes in teas vary greatly, but we are amply prepared to please and satisfy all tastes, even the most exacting and fastidious. Our teas are direct importations, carefully inspected and tested by our tea-expert, who has made a life study of tea, and then packed for you under our own roof. Each variety is a tea of quality and will commend itself to the most discriminating users.

Our assortment consists of five varieties, Green Japan, Formosa Oolong, English Breakfast, Ceylon and Larkin Mixed.

Larkin Green Japan Tea.

These leaves are gathered from the fully matured plants of the famous gardens of Japan. Green Japan Tea far excels the Chinese varieties in delicate flavor because leaves grown from the soil of the Sunrise Kingdom respond more favorably to the treatment required to produce a green tea. This tea is panfried and its mild, nectar-like sweetness is developed with great care. Users will find that Larkin Green Japan satisfies their utmost demands. In one-pound tin can, price 60c.



Larkin Formosa Oolong Tea.

The Oolongs are the mildest of the black teas. Full, rich, flowery fragrance is their distinctive character. The Oolongs from the Island of Formosa are world famous for their delicate taste and fragrant odor. Our importation is of the most choice leaves grown on the island. In one-pound tin can, price 60c.

Larkin English Breakfast Tea.

This is the characteristic black tea, known in the trade as "Souchong." It is called English Breakfast because before the advent of Ceylon tea it was the customary breakfast beverage of the English people. The flavor of Larkin English Breakfast is round and mellow, and it is bouquet finished. The smoky taste discernible in inferior English Breakfast Tea is wholly absent. The aroma and flavor are due to the quality of the leaves and not to a long-drawn-out "cooking" process. In one-

pound tin can, price 60c.

Larkin Ceylon Tea.

The tea plant reaches high perfection as a member of the vegetable kingdom, in Ceylon. In the rich soil and warm, moist atmosphere of the island, the plant thrives, developing unusually full, rich flavor properties. It has just double the strength of teas grown in other districts. In Larkin Ceylon Tea there are the small golden-tipped leaves from the finest bushes, only. Larkin Ceylon

has all the flavor strength characteristic of Ceylon teas. In one-pound can, price 60c.

Larkin Mixed Tea.

To the palate longing for a more intricate flavor than that of any of the teas brewed separately, Larkin Mixed Tea will be a genuine delight. It is blended, after the fashion of the Japanese, from imported teas of the most choice selection, by our expert who has given it special attention. Every tea used is of superior excellence, and the blend is in correct proportion to give uniformly pleasant taste and fragrant odor. In one-pound can, price 60c.

TEA MANUFACTURE.

Leaves for green tea and for black tea may be gathered from the same bush. It is the difference in the treatment of the leaves that gives us the variety of teas. Some tea leaves are peculiarly adapted to being prepared as green teas, but the manner in which they are manipulated, as the teamen say, determines their classification.

Less is done to green teas than to black teas. In making this variety, the object seems to be to expel the watery juices of the leaf and to cure or dry it with the least delay. The leaves, after they have been gathered, are exposed to the air for a short time but are not exposed to the sun. Next, they are heated until they become soft and pliable. Then each leaf is rolled up into a little ball and a considerable portion of the

watery juices squeezed out. The balls are now broken apart, and the leaves submitted to the final drying process by fire which finishes green tea—panfired green tea.

Sometimes, in place of the final firing, the leaves are subjected to the rays of the sun. The product of this method is called sun-dried green tea. Or it may be dried artificially in a bamboo basket, giving basket-fired green tea. Panfiring, however, develops a more delicate taste and aroma than either of the other methods, and this process is used in the preparation of all teas intended for exportation.

To a work on the subject of tea, we are indebted for the following information concerning the method of manipulating the leaves in the manufacture of the black teas:

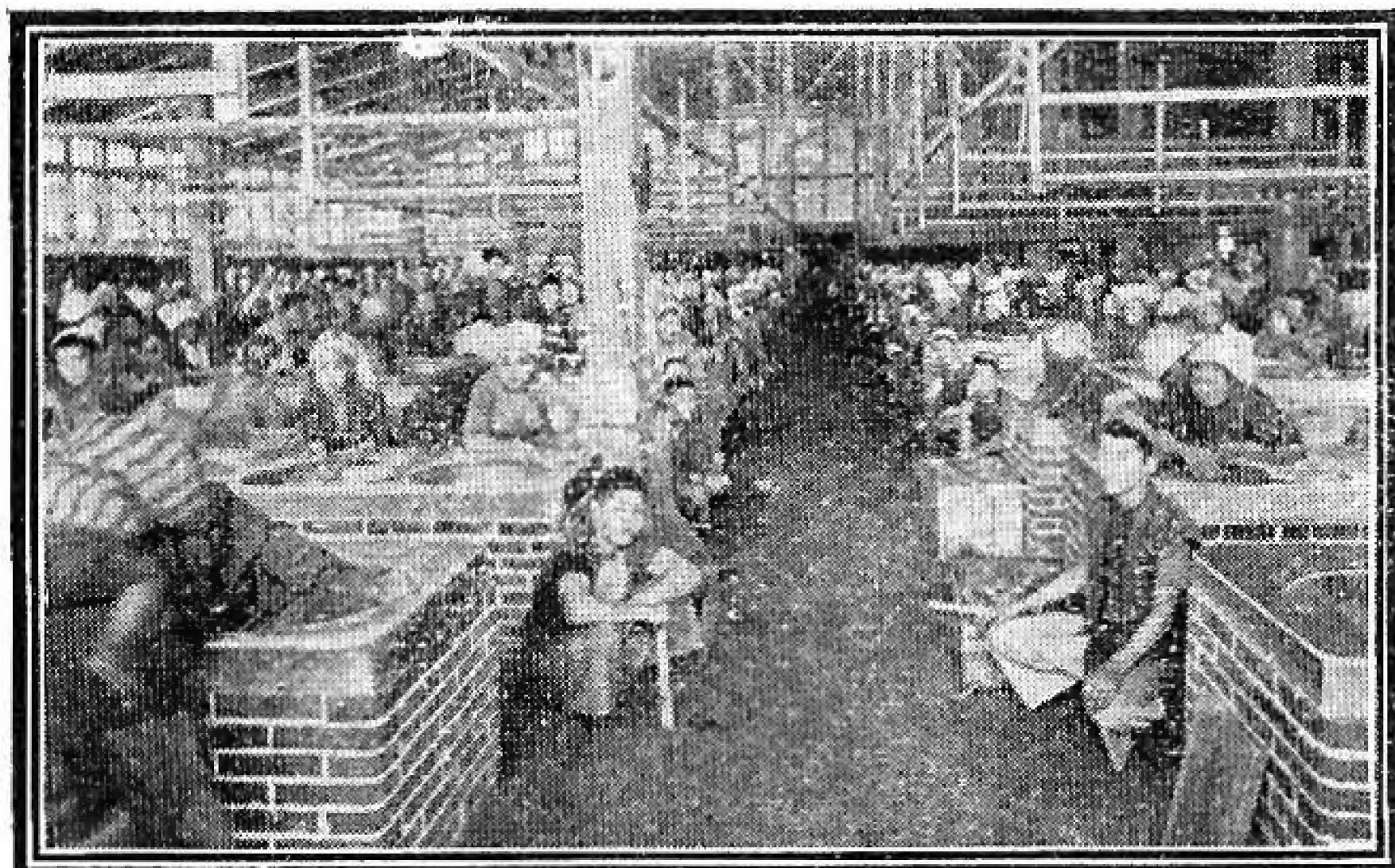
In making an oolong black tea, which occupies an intermediate position between green tea and black souchong,

the leaves are first exposed to the action of the air for a considerable time, and in many cases, to the sun also. An incipient fermentation may take place, although this is denied by some experts. There is certainly a chemical change beyond the brief preliminary drying of green tea. During this period, the leaves are stirred and tossed by the hands. The effect, if not the object, is to expose greater surfaces to the air, and to increase oxidation.

It is during this operation that the leaves first begin to manifest characteristics of manufactured tea,



A TEA GARDEN OF JAPAN.



TEA FIRING ROOM.

in the way of a fragrant tea odor, which the green leaf did not possess. In this connection, the development of sweet odors in new hay, quite different from those of green grass, may be recalled.

This prolonged exposure to the air is termed "withering," and the leaves become soft and flaccid, as they do in the first artificial heating for green tea. In withering, the leaves lose about one quarter of their weight in moisture. The leaves must not be bruised before the termination of this treatment, or injurious chemical changes will begin.

The second operation with black tea is the same rolling into balls, twisting and squeezing, as in green tea. The sap of the leaf thus liberated from its cells is spread all over the surface of the rolled leaf, where it is in a very favorable position for the oxygen of the atmosphere to act upon it during the next stage of manufacture, namely, fermentation. For the "fermentation" stage, the rolls are either left undisturbed to heat, or, as in Indian methods, the rolls are broken up, and the leaves distributed in drawers, with free access of air. In either case, heating follows, and chemical action is indicated by a change of color that reddens and darkens the leaf, and by the evolution of further pleasant "tea" odors.

Care must be taken to arrest fermentation at the proper stage by the first "firing," and this firing expels about half of the remaining moisture of the withered leaves, and probably develops an additional portion of those volatile oils that give fragrance and taste to manufactured tea. Too high or too long-continued firing drives off these oils with the watery juices.

They are also wasted by exposure of manufactured tea to the atmosphere. Firing is sometimes divided into two or three stages.

To procure the English breakfast teas, a souchong or congou, the fermentation or oxidation is simply carried further, and with higher firing, some of the volatile oils and delicate flavors are expelled or are changed into other flavors.

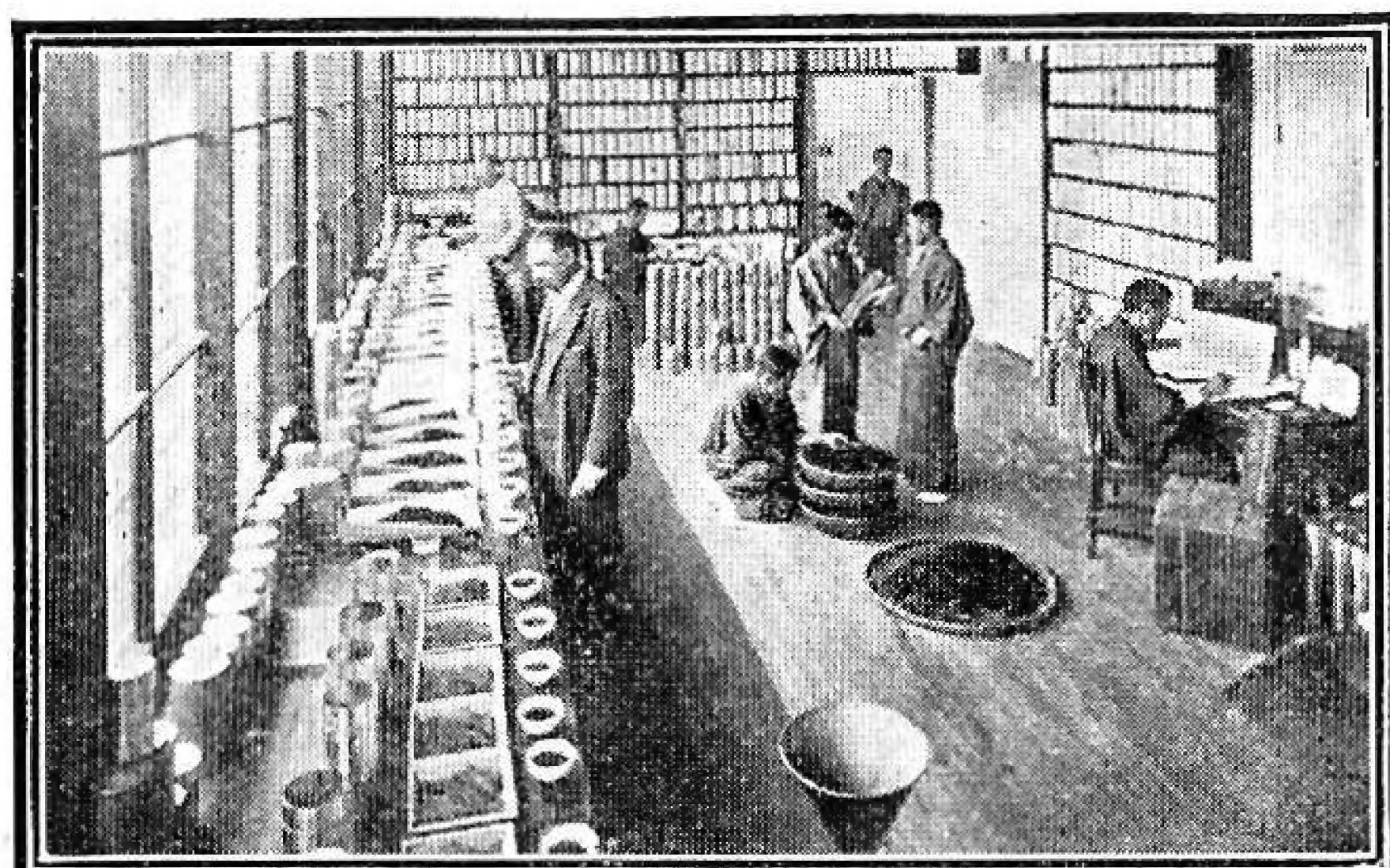
TEA HISTORY.

At least two thousand years ago, the Chinese drank tea. Perhaps long before that, but we have no authentic history of the beverage earlier than that date.

From China the use of tea passed to Japan and Formosa. Culture of the tea-plant did not begin in either island until about the twelfth century, long after tea-drinking had become an established custom of the



TEA PICKING IN SHIZUOKA JAPAN.
MOUNT FUJI IN THE DISTANCE.



JAPANESE BUYING AND INSPECTING ROOM.

inhabitants of both. The tea they used came from China.

The Dutch were the first European tea-drinkers. Traders of the Dutch East India Company who made their way to China learned to use the beverage, and took home to their countrymen the first tea that reached Europe. Early English supplies of tea were obtained through Dutch sources.

While both English and Dutch East India Companies very early in the seventeenth century exhibited small samples of tea as curiosities of barbarian customs, tea did not begin to be used as a beverage in England, even by the wealthy, until after 1650. With the rise of the London coffee-house, however, tea-drinking increased rapidly, in spite of its high cost of \$6.50 a pound with a government tax of \$1.25 in addition. In those days, tea was sold by the ounce and was steeped and brewed until every last bit of flavor, sweet and bitter, had been extracted from the precious leaf.

Already the Russians had acquired the tea habit, and they and the Dutch were drinking the beverage with the fondness of the Celestials themselves. By the early years of the nineteenth century, tea had become permanently established in most of the households of England and Europe.

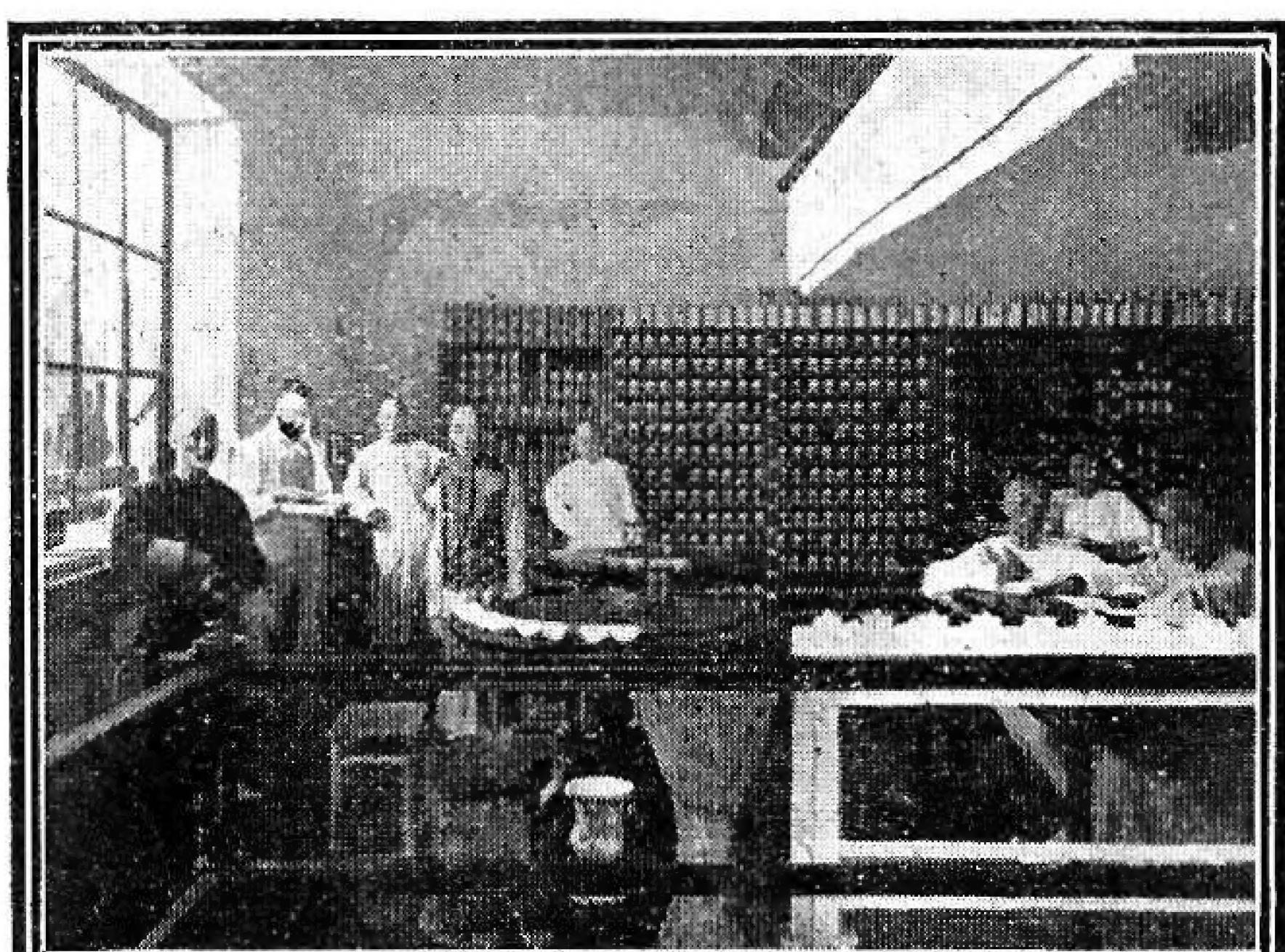
About sixty years ago, the first Ceylon teas began to appear;

until then, all of the tea consumed in Europe and America was from the gardens of China, Japan and Formosa. It was the Englishmen who recognized in the soil and climate of the island of Ceylon ideal conditions for the culture of the plant.

In 1841, several specimens of the tea-plant were imported from China. Successive experiments proved satisfactory and resulted in the tea produced being pushed into the European markets. Now, many millions of pounds of Ceylon teas are exported annually to England alone.

Extensive experiments in tea culture have been carried on in the United States. Thus far the results have been fairly encouraging, and the raising of the tea-plant in this country is by no means an impossibility. In the year 1899, one tea-estate in South Carolina grew and manufactured several thousand pounds of tea of good quality. It was sold for prices equal to those of fine foreign teas. Some day the whole world may be drinking American-grown tea. Things much more surprising than that have happened.

It is a remarkable fact that the latent inestimable qualities of the tea-plant do not appear in the green leaf nor in the leaf dried without man's agency.



A JAPANESE TEA SAMPLING ROOM.

LARKIN OLIVE OIL.

LIVE OIL is now a Larkin Product. We have arranged to import for our customers an unusually choice grade of this widely used relish, and are now ready to supply it in all orders. Full half-pint bottle, price, 40c.

Larkin Olive Oil is genuine virgin olive oil produced from ripe olive fruit cultivated in Southern France,—four points of quality that make it worthy of sale by Larkin Co. and worthy of consumption by Larkin customers.

Genuine Olive Oil.

In these days of promiscuous adulteration and substitution, it means much to say honestly that an article is genuine; especially is this true of food products, and particularly of olive oil. A number of the cheap vegetable oils, cotton-seed oil, peanut oil, corn oil, rape-seed oil and others, resemble olive oil so closely in everything but flavor that they are widely used by some olive-oil dealers as adulterants and make-weights. It is even alleged that thousands of gallons of cotton-seed oil are shipped each year from our Southern States to Italy, where it is bottled and labeled and then returned to America to be sold at fancy prices as genuine olive oil by unscrupulous dealers. Only the large importers, such as Larkin Co., who are supported by a corps of able chemists and who do their own bottling, can be absolutely sure that they are not being duped. Larkin Olive Oil is genuine. We give you our word for it.

**Virgin Olive Oil.**

This means that the oil is produced from selected fruit, that it is expressed without great pressure and by a cold process, and that it contains nothing but the first runnings.

After the virgin oil has been expressed, the pomace is ground, treated with water, and again subjected to pressure. Several pressings in this manner may be carried out, each yielding an oil inferior to that preceding.

These low-grade oils are often sold as virgin oils, but they are sharp and pungent to the taste and lack the delicacy that makes the virgin oil so palatable. Larkin Olive Oil is a pure, virgin oil.

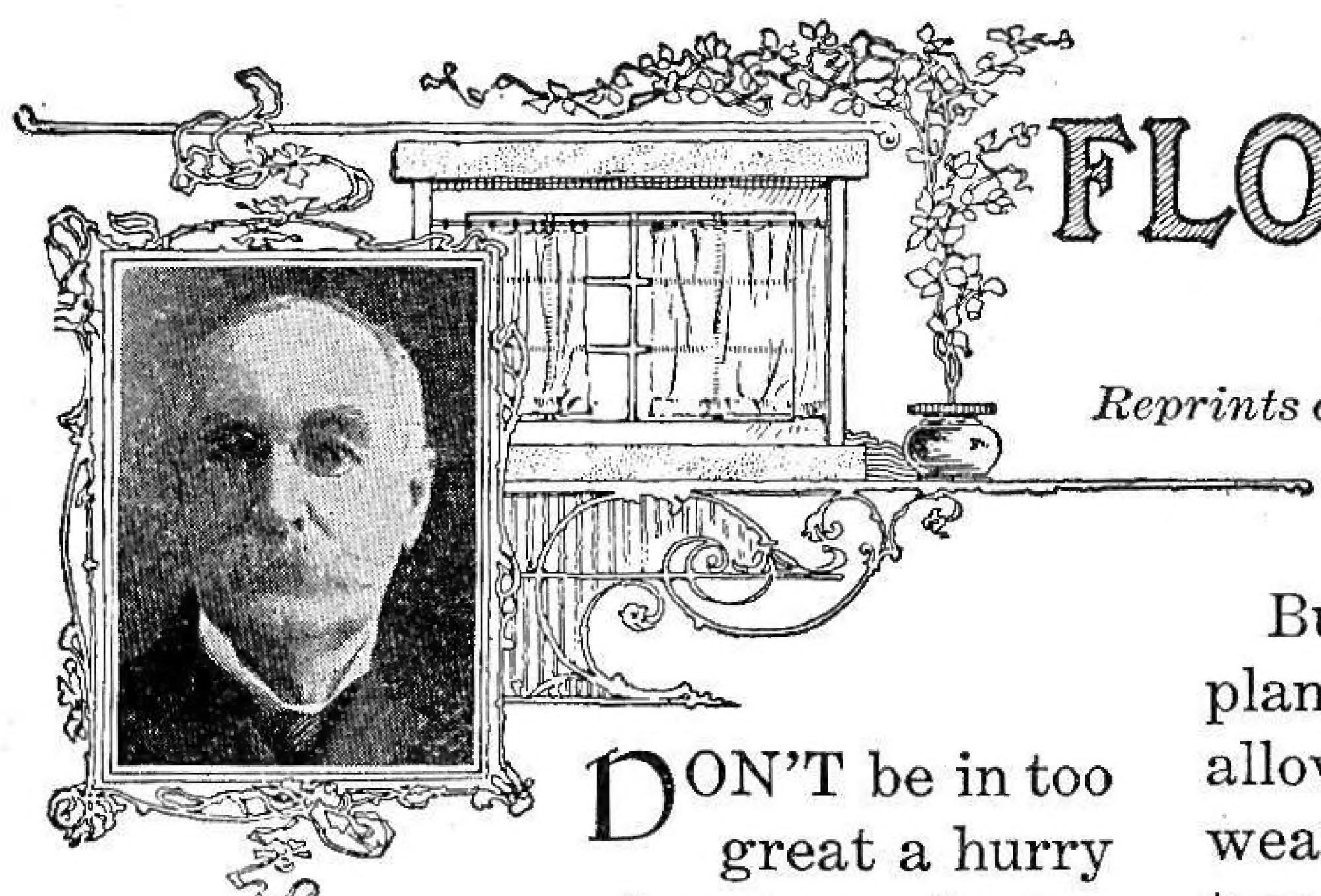
Ripe Olives.

The oil in the olives does not develop its full delicacy until the fruit is fully ripe. None but ripe olives are used in producing the oil we offer to our customers. This makes it more costly, but insures the quality we demand and you appreciate.

Grown in Southern France.

The locality in which olives are grown determines the flavor and quality of their oil. The soil of Southern France produces an olive whose oil possesses the finest quality and delicacy, pleasant and bland in taste and delicious in odor. It lacks the sharp, pungent twang of the Italian oils, and is more likely to please the cultured palate. We are sure you will like it.

Larkin pure virgin Olive Oil from the celebrated groves of Southern France. Put up in 8-oz. bottles in our own plant; price, 40c. a bottle.



FLORAL TALK

By EBEN E. REXFORD.

*Reprints allowed only by special permission of
Editor THE LARKIN IDEA.*

DON'T be in too great a hurry about gardening operations. One swallow doesn't make a summer, you know, neither does one or two bright, sunshiny days denote settled warm weather. "Haste often makes waste," to quote another pertinent old saying, for a garden made before the season is ripe for it generally has to be made over, and when this is the case a good deal of labor, to say nothing of the seed put in, is wasted. You are not assured an early crop because you put seed into the ground early in the season. When the ground and the weather are in proper condition to facilitate plant-growth, sow your seed, but not until then. Observation proves to us, nearly every season, that plants from seed sown before the ground is warm are generally later in development than those sown after all conditions are favorable to vigorous growth. The seed of most annuals is quite delicate, and to put it into the ground while the latter is wet and cold is to invite disaster. Therefore do not be in too much of a hurry to make the garden. At the north, it is not possible to do much real garden-work this month. The ground can not be worked to advantage until the moisture from melting snows and early rains has drained out of it. About all that can be done is to spade it up, and let lie exposed to the action of the elements until settled warm weather comes.

But Sweet Peas ought to be planted now. They should be allowed to get a start before hot weather comes. I practice the trench-system with them. This consists in making a V-shaped excavation, about six inches deep. This can be done any time after the ground can be worked with a hoe. It is not necessary to wait until it is dry and mellow. In fact, I have sown Sweet Peas shortly after the frost was out of the ground, with most satisfactory results. Sow the seed thickly—half an inch apart is about right—and cover it with an inch of the soil thrown out of the trench. Tread this down firmly. When the plants have grown to be about two inches tall, draw in some more of the soil, and continue to do this, from time to time, until all the earth taken from the trench has been returned to it. There are good reasons for this method of Sweet Pea growing. The plant likes to have its roots cool and damp. Early planting gives it a chance to get well rooted before hot summer weather checks development, as it is pretty sure to when surface-sowing is practiced. By filling in, we keep the roots so deep in the soil that there is little danger of their being affected by drouth, and they are at a depth to insure coolness.

A good Sweet Pea support is made from woven-wire netting. Get a six-foot width, and fasten it to stakes stuck at each end of the row, and at distances of six or eight feet apart. At first, the plants will not be inclined to take hold of the wire,

but by weaving them out and in through the lower meshes of the netting they will soon understand what is wanted of them, and after a little they will attach themselves to the wires by their tendrils without further attention from you.

Roses and other shrubs can be planted this month. In setting them, be sure to make the place in which you set them large and deep enough to admit of spreading out their roots naturally. Have the soil as mellow as it is possible to make it at this time of the year, and see that it is enriched by the addition of well-rotted barnyard manure. In planting shrubs, it is well to cut away most of the old top. When you have the roots spread out, sift fine soil among them, firm it with the foot, and then fill in with the earth thrown up from the excavation. On no account plant loosely. If you do, the soil will be likely to dry out before new roots are made, and the plant will fail to get a good start early in the season, or it may die. Careful work is necessary here.

Old plants in the border will be greatly benefited by removal, or by division of the roots. Cut away all diseased portions, retaining only that which is in perfect health. Make the soil in which you plant them rich and mellow.

Many shrubs can be pruned to advantage now. But be sure that this work is confined to such kinds as do not blossom early in the season from buds of last season's formation. The Lilac is a representative of this class. To prune such a shrub now is to destroy its spring crop of flowers to a great extent. Only such branches as escape the pruning-knife will bear blossoms. The kinds to prune at this season are those that make some growth before flowering.

Would you like a list of good

shrubs for spring planting? Here is one:

Deutzia, Spirea, Weigelia, Flowering Currant, Syringa, Japan Quince, Daphne Cneorum, Tartarian or Bush Honeysuckle, Forsythia, Hydrangea, Flowering Almond, and Roses in variety.

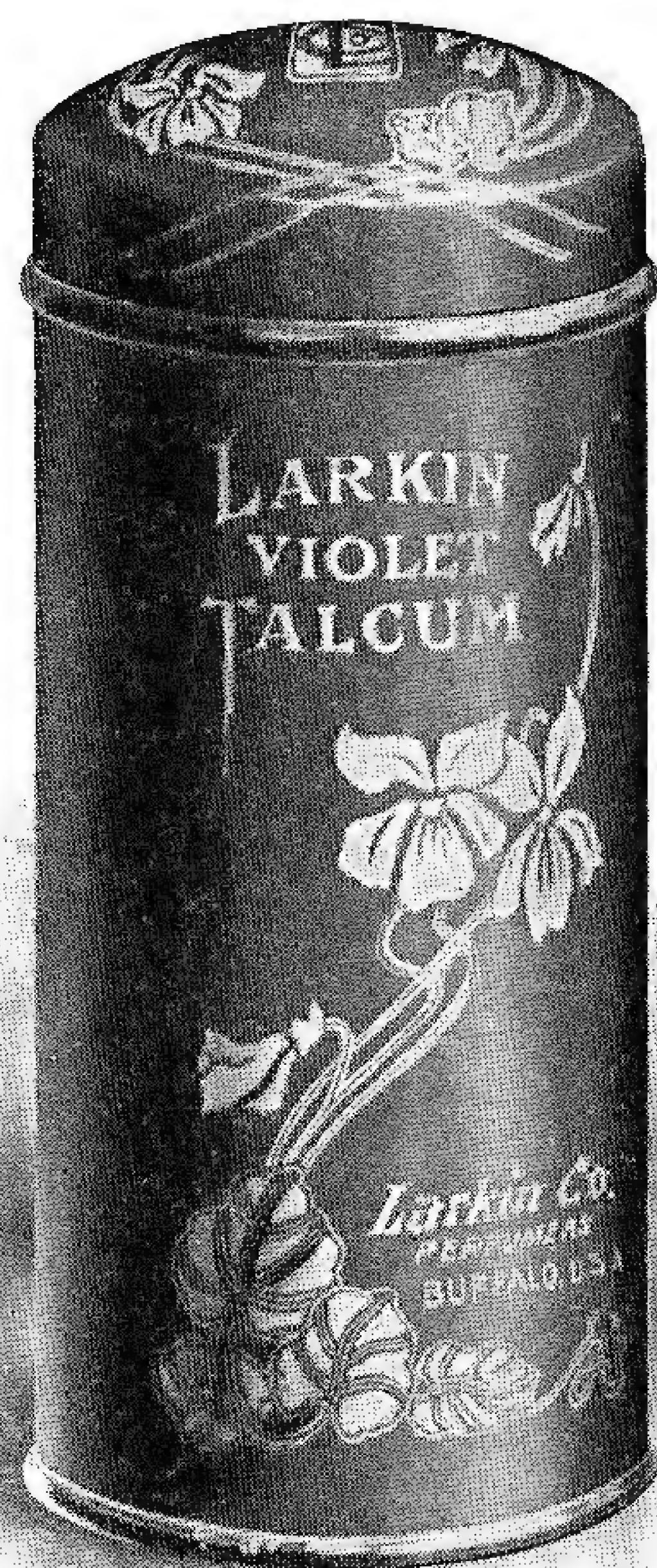
Here is a list of most excellent vines that can be planted in spring:

Ampelopsis, Clematis, Aristolochia, Akebia, Wistaria Lonicera or Climbing Honeysuckle, and Celastrus Scandens, better known as Bittersweet. This, the Ampelopsis or Virginia Creeper, and Clematis Virginiana, are native plants, which can be found growing along the roadside in most country localities, or in the edges of the woodland. They are superior in most respects to the more expensive vines from foreign countries, which are sold at high prices.

Clematis Paniculata is a new variety of this popular family that I take great pleasure in recommending to the attention of the flower-loving readers of THE LARKIN IDEA. It is of rapid growth, often reaching a height of twenty feet in a season. Late in September, it is literally covered with feathery white flowers of most delightful fragrance. It is one of the most graceful vines of which I have any knowledge. Try it, and you will be delighted with it. For training up about the veranda, it is unequaled.

Before making the garden, it is well to plan it out on paper. Make a rough diagram of it, showing where you want its beds to be, and then go over it carefully, and locate the plants you are going to make use of. Think out their characteristics, that you may avoid the mistakes of getting low-growing kinds in the rear, and tall-growing sorts in front.

LARKIN Violet Talcum



AN old friend with new characteristics, in which the skill and science of our Perfume and Pharmaceutical laboratories and the art of our studio are united, will be found in Larkin Violet Talcum, formerly Modjeska Talcum Powder.

The infusion of an exquisite violet scent will insure a wider appreciation than ever. In quality the preparation will retain the velvety, antiseptic and absorbent powers that for many years have made its presence so welcome on the Larkin customer's toilet-table. The new box, consistent with this increased daintiness, is in violet, upon which sprays of violets are lithographed in gold.

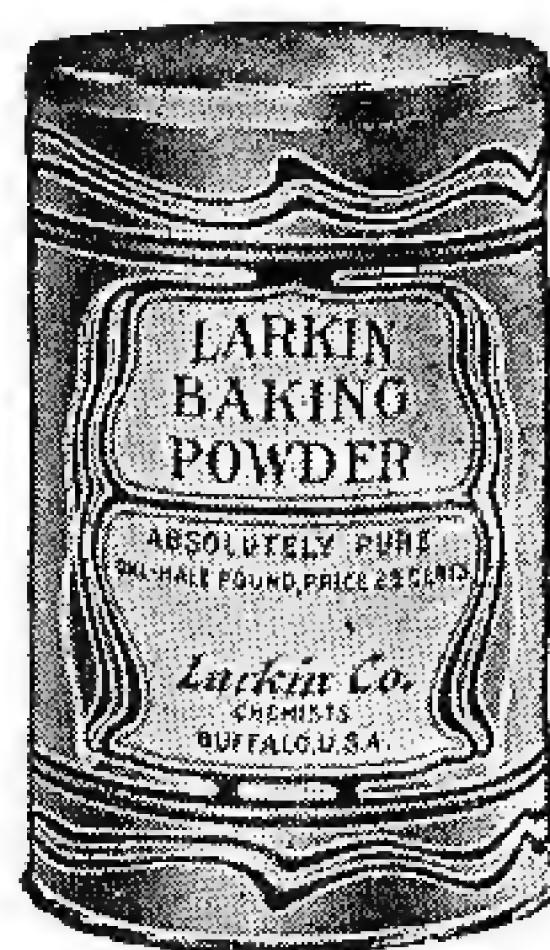
In 3-oz. boxes with sprinkler caps,
15 cents.

Larkin Co.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

LARKIN BAKING POWDER READY.

Larkin Baking Powder, another new Larkin Product that will be welcomed by every housewife who has learned the comfort and advantages of Factory-to-Family dealing, is now ready. Include it in your next order. Half-pound can, price 25 cents.



Three merits establish the superiority of Larkin Baking Powder: (1.) High baking efficiency. (2.) Excellent keeping properties. (3.) Hygienic qualities. Painstaking preparation has developed these three essential qualities in Larkin Baking Powder to the greatest possible degree. After you have tried the new product, you will agree with us that it is the very best baking powder made.

Consider the three merits of Larkin Baking Powder a little more fully.

1. Baking efficiency. By this we mean leavening power, the power to make the dough light. When baking powder is moistened, a gas, called carbon-dioxide, is given off. It is the same gas that makes soda-water bubble. The carbon-dioxide spreads itself out through the dough and "raises" it, as we say. When the dough is heated by baking, the gas is driven off and leaves the biscuit or cake light and eatable—that is, if good baking powder has been used.

Good baking powder is that which contains the correct amount of leavening power. Larkin Baking Powder does. Extensive experimentation, carried on in our laboratories, by our baking-powder experts, has made it so. In the experimentation practical tests were not omitted.

From the powders compounded after the various formulas considered, biscuits and cakes were made, and the best powder selected. Then the leavening power must remain constant, so that two teaspoonfuls will always give you equal results. This brings us to the second merit.

2. Keeping quality. Some baking powders are all right the day the can is opened. Two teaspoonfuls will raise a dozen biscuits beautifully. A few weeks later, the same amount leaves a soggy, pasty mess because in the meantime some of the leavening strength has escaped from the powder. You can't count on a baking powder like that. Larkin Baking Powder is good at the start, and it will stay good. You can trust it. We would have to go into some involved and uninteresting chemistry to tell you why, so we'll just let you prove what we say, for yourself, by a trial in your own kitchen.

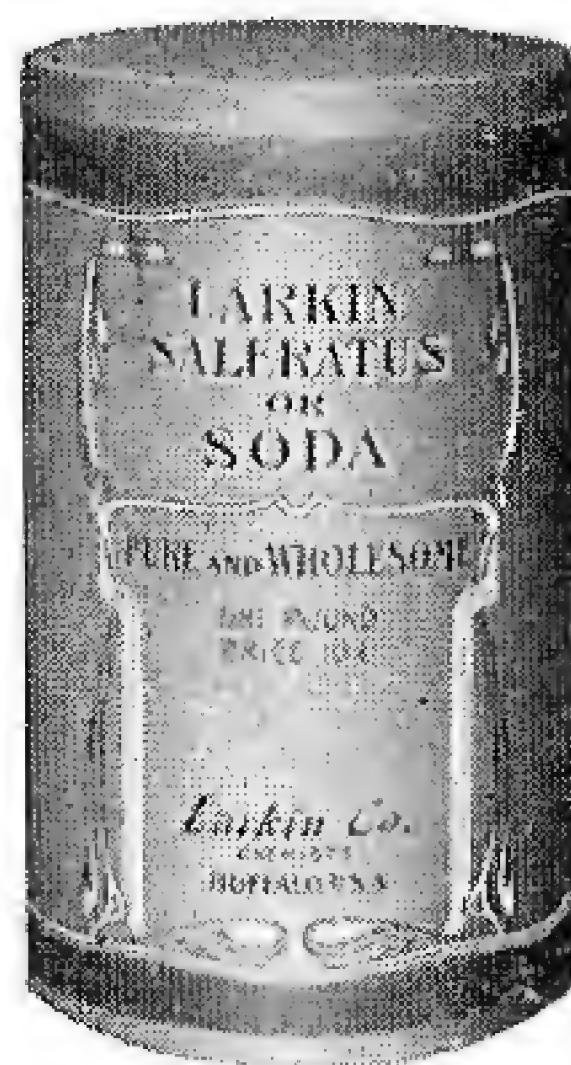
3. Hygienic quality. In the household the hygienic quality, the healthfulness of baking powder is seldom brought into question. It should be. Nothing affects us more than what we eat. Very many sour stomachs and cross tempers may justly be laid at the door of poor and injurious baking powders. When the carbon-dioxide, the leavening gas, is given off from baking powder, a residue is left. In some baking powders this residue is harmful. Larkin Baking Powder is so compounded that no injurious residue is left after the powder has done its work. We have taken great care, characteristic Larkin care, to be sure of this point.

In addition to these three points of merit in Larkin Baking Powder, the correct process by which it is manufactured helps to support our claim of its superiority. The raw materials are absolutely pure; all are subjected to rigid chemical test;

the chemist who has charge of the making of Larkin Baking Powder knows how; he is skilled by study and experience; then everything about the plant is kept scrupulously clean. The powder is never touched by human hand until it reaches the consumer.

Such are our claims for Larkin Baking Powder. Make yourself doubly sure about it by a trial in your own kitchen. We are confident that you will be delighted.

LARKIN SALERATUS OR SODA.



In addition to Larkin Baking Powder, we are now prepared to furnish our customers another household necessity, Larkin Saleratus or Soda.

Saleratus or Soda is not a compound, but a simple material whose chemical name is bicarbonate of soda. Purity, then, is the one claim that can be made for it, and Larkin Saleratus or Soda is pure in every sense that the word has.

This household necessity is too well known to require description. It is valuable in baking, cooking and as a household remedy. You will find Larkin Saleratus or Soda thoroughly satisfactory.

Securely packed with full directions and suggestions for use. Price, 10c. a full-pound carton.

THREE NEW HOUSEHOLD REMEDIES. TWENTY-FIVE CENTS EACH.

Among the good things just added to the list of Larkin Products are three time-honored household remedies, Larkin Tincture of Arnica, Larkin Camphorated Oil, and Larkin Castor Oil, each of characteristic Larkin quality. They are now ready for your use. Have us send them in your next Combination Case.

Larkin Tincture of Arnica.

A carefully prepared tincture made from selected arnica-flowers, gathered in the highlands of Europe. Of full strength and not bolstered in any way whatever.

Tincture of Arnica is a grateful application for bruises, sprains and all kindred injuries. No household is thoroughly equipped without it. Larkin Tincture of Arnica will prove a comfort in every home to which it is sent.

For external use. Full 4-oz. bottle, price 25c.

Larkin Camphorated Oil.

A compound of pure emollient oil and camphor. For all swellings and affections of the glands and joints, and for rheumatism, Larkin Camphorated Oil will be found a soothing dressing. Applied with hot flannels, it will prevent spasms in croup. Larkin Camphorated Oil should be in every home, particularly where there are growing children.

Full 4-oz. bottle, price 25c.

Larkin Castor Oil.

A mild and speedy cathartic, decidedly the best and safest for children, as a rule.

Larkin Castor Oil is expressed from the seeds of the castor-tree by a cold process. In this way the oil, and the oil only, is obtained. It lacks the acrid taste and irritating properties of oils extracted by other

and cheaper methods. Larkin Castor Oil is absolutely pure, and so commends itself to every home.

Full 4-oz. bottle, price 25c.

LARKIN LIQUID GLUE.

We are now prepared to furnish our customers Larkin Liquid Glue in self-sealing collapsible tubes.

It is not an odoriferous fish-glue but a pure animal-glue in liquid form. It may be used with equal advantage in all climates and will never turn sour; it has all the advantages of the old-fashioned, boiled-in-the-pot kind, with none of its house-polluting odor. It will do more and better work than any other glue made.

It will mend broken bric-a-brac, glassware, china, wood, furniture, leather, metal, and everything else that glue will stick together, and the repairs will be permanent. It is always ready for immediate use and may be applied without soiling the hands. Price 10c. a tube. A trial of it is essential to an appreciation of its convenience.

LARKIN MACHINE OIL.

Larkin Machine Oil may hereafter be included in all orders for Larkin Soaps and Products. Price, 2-oz. bottle, 10 cents. It is an admirable lubricant for all light household machinery because it will not gum.

A bottle of good machine oil will add to the serenity of any household. A drop will cure irritating squeaks in casters and door-hinges. It will be found useful in a thousand and one ways. Let us send a bottle with your next order.

The Larkin Idea.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT.

The subscription price of THE LARKIN IDEA is 50 cents per annum.

It is published on the first day of each month, and will be mailed to any address in the United States or Canada for one year upon receipt of the subscription price.

Back numbers cannot be furnished.

THE LARKIN IDEA will be mailed free for one year to every sender of three Orders for the Larkin Soaps and other Products within twelve months. To one who continues to send Orders, the paper will be mailed regularly until twelve months after the date of receipt of the last of three orders received within a year.

Short contributions are requested from any patron who has something to say that will interest others.

Larkitt Co. Publishers.

ESTABLISHED, 1875.

FACTORY-TO-FAMILY

SOAPMAKERS, PERFUMERS, CHEMISTS, REFINERS,
IMPORTERS.

Factories and General Offices, BUFFALO, N.Y.

Branch for West-of-the-Mississippi patrons
PEORIA, ILL.

LOCAL BRANCHES:

49 Barclay St. and { NEW YORK CITY.
52, 54 Park Place, After April 30, 1905, 4 and 6 White St.

19 Eliot St., - - - - BOSTON.
2221-2231 Arch St., - - PHILADELPHIA.
820-824 Liberty Ave., - - PITTSBURG.

IN SPRING.

By EBEN E. REXFORD.

Oh, up the hill and down the dale,
The springtime breezes blow,
And swinging from the lines we see
The washings white as snow.

We see the women cleaning house;
They scrub the kitchen floors,
And when a hungry man comes in
They send him out-of-doors
To beat the carpets on the fence
Until, into his eyes,
Beneath the blows of switch or
broom,
No clouds of dust arise.

It seems that most of womankind
Find pleasure, twice a year,
In making fresh and sweet and clean
The homes they hold so dear.

And what makes pleasant work of it
Is Sweet Home Soap, they say,
And Boraxine, whose missions are
To drive all dirt away.

No longer need they scrub and rub
Till fingers bleed and smart,
And bones ache till it really seems
They'd ache themselves apart.

These helps for housewives make
the work
Of cleaning-time so light
That woman keeps her temper;
Still, the man keeps out of sight.

The announcement of many new Larkin Products requires space so extensive that it is necessary to omit one important department, The Larkin Girls' Cozy Corner, from this issue. We believe, however, that these new Products, which may be included in all future orders, will receive so glad a welcome that the joy will leave no room for disappointment because of the omission.

SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS.

We urge every subscriber to THE LARKIN IDEA and every Larkin customer to inform us promptly of any change of address. This is needful to avoid interruption in receipt of this magazine at your home.

THE POTTER'S ART.

The new booklet on Larkin crockery, *The Potter's Art*, will prove of special interest to Club-of-Ten organizers and members. Upon request, we will mail to any Club secretary a copy of the booklet for each of her members. A postal card, mentioning the number of copies desired, will receive prompt attention.

The booklet tells about the making of pottery and is handsomely illustrated. In addition, it contains

matter of special interest to all Larkin customers. It will help make your Club meetings interesting. Send at once.

PREMIUM NEWS.

Acres of Art Squares—Statistics are usually a bore, but occasionally one meets interesting figures. Here are some. If the Ingrain Art Squares that we sent to our customers as premiums last year were spread out side by side, they would cover a fifty-acre tract. At that rate, how long will it take us to handle enough Ingrain Art Squares to carpet your farm or the town in which you live?

Louisville, Ky., has a population of over 200,000, but there would be plenty of standing-room on the Art Squares that Larkin customers received last year for its citizens, and an ample stand for a band, the city fathers and the mayor.

Our Art Squares and Rugs are among the best values we offer. If you have not experienced the satisfaction of having one of these in your home, look over the Premium List and order one with your next case of Soaps and Products. That you will be pleased is a foregone conclusion.

An Improved Offer—Our shrewd premium-buyers watch the markets with unrelenting vigilance; whenever an opportunity to improve an offer presents itself, it is seized at once, and then there is good news for our customers.

Good news, like this: the new Improved Water-Filter is just twice as desirable as the old one and is offered on the same terms, that is, for two Certificates. The top will hold eight quarts and the bottom twelve,—just twice what the old filter would hold. It will filter five gallons of water a day. The new

filter is beautifully finished in blue-and-white and is exactly the same type and make as the old one; so quality hasn't been sacrificed.

Don't let the warm weather catch you without this first-class Water-Filter ready for work.

Merit Appreciated—Most American women, particularly those who deal with us, are good judges of household furnishings, quick to recognize merit and quick to take advantage of an opportunity to secure good furniture.

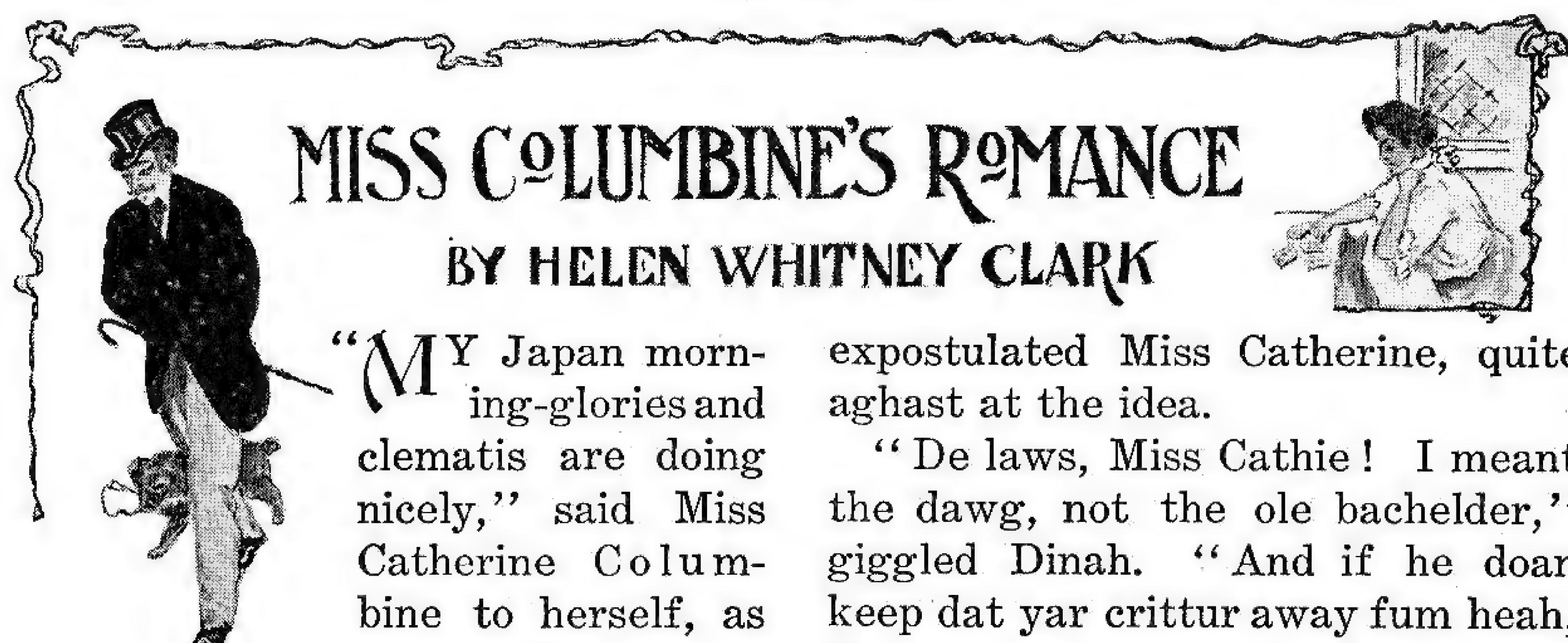
To this trait, we attribute the popularity of Sideboard No. 914, given for fourteen Certificates. It is an offer of unusual value and we are not surprised at the call being made upon our stock.

For full description, see latest edition of our Premium List.

Where Quarts are Quarts—Did you ever try to put five quarts into a five-quart kettle and find that there wasn't room to hold it? Some manufacturers, forced by competition to cut cost, steal material from the customer by making a 4-qt. kettle and calling it a 5-qt. kettle and charging a 5-qt. kettle price.

L. & G. Agate Nickel-Steel Ware isn't built on that principle. It is made by the largest manufacturers of enameled ware in the world and is thoroughly good and reliable throughout. A set of sixteen pieces is given for five Certificates. You will find a full description in the Premium List.

The Teapot and the Coffee Pot offered in the present Set have agate covers, an improvement over those offered last year. (They had tin covers.) Many of our offers have been improved in little ways like this; in fact, we are always on the lookout for better offers, great and small, for you.



MISS COLUMBINE'S ROMANCE

BY HELEN WHITNEY CLARK

"**M**Y Japan morning-glories and clematis are doing nicely," said Miss Catherine Columbine to herself, as she strolled among the flower-beds, round, oblong, and heart-shaped, that adorned the sides of the little green lawn in front of her small cottage. "The royal-show pansies, and ageratum and golden-feather pyrethrum will be in full bloom in time for the festival, too, I believe."

Suddenly a dark brown object came bounding across the neatly kept lawn. Miss Catherine quickly fled towards the house, screaming affrightedly, "Dinah! Here's a dog! A great horrid dog in our yard! Come quick, and drive him away!"

And Dinah came rushing out, mop dripping with Boraxine suds in hand, and soon put the audacious intruder to rout.

"B'longs to dat ar ole bachelder, what moved in next door, last week," asserted Dinah, disapprovingly. "I ain't got no use fur ole bachelders, noway," she continued, "an if he comes a-pestering round here, chasing the cat and digging holes in the gyarden, and a-eating up the aigs, wher the hens done steal deir nest-es, I'll—I'll run him out dis heah yard, dat's whut! Fust thing you knows, Miss Cathie, he'll be a trackin' his duhty feet 'bout dat new Dekkan Rug o' yuse in the libury."

"Oh, Dinah! The—the old bachelor would not dig holes in the garden, or eat up the eggs,"

expostulated Miss Catherine, quite aghast at the idea.

"De laws, Miss Cathie! I meant the dawg, not the ole bachelder," giggled Dinah. "And if he doan keep dat yar crittur away fum heah, I'ze gwine hit him wid a broomstick, so quick it'll make his haid swim!"

Miss Catherine was shocked at the declaration, but she wisely held her peace, inwardly hoping that her assistant would think twice before venturing to attack the strange gentleman with a broomstick.

The small dwelling, with its neat paling fence, its cozy, flat-topped porch and snug garden, with a roomy poultry-yard, was the facsimile of the one occupied by the obnoxious bachelor and his dog, the cottages being situated on adjoining lots, with a rather low division fence separating the grounds.

Miss Catherine had had her romance, as every woman does at some time of her life, sooner or later, as the case may be. But the fates had not been kind to her and the past was as a sealed page now. "Marriage is not for every one," she told herself, "and I am quite settled now. I shall never marry." And thenceforth she avoided all unmarried members of the opposite sex, and consoled herself with the thought "'Tis better to have loved and lost, than never to have loved at all."

Her time was sufficiently occupied with her tiny *ménage'*, her cat, her flowers and chickens, and a Club-of-Ten meeting to break the monotony each month, so she was not unhappy, having calmly resigned herself to the fate of a confirmed spinster.

The new tenant, in the meantime, was taking observations of his next-door neighbors.

"An old maid, I'll bet a button," he grumbled, "and a woman servant. Thunderation! What did I ever move in here for? Confound it all! A fellow isn't safe anywhere, these days. What did I ever move in here for? Of course she'll be setting her cap to catch me—but I won't be caught! I'll keep as far away from her as possible; and if we should happen to meet face to face by accident, I'll look another way."

"And if any of them old hens I see scratching over there come prowling around here, I'll set the dog on 'em! I won't be pestered by old maids or their hens either. I've hired a man-servant, a purpose to keep out of their clutches, and I'm not going to be took in by the smartest woman that ever breathed!"

And with a decided look on his rather well-cut mouth, Mr. Archibald Wickwire unfolded the last edition of the evening paper, still damp and warm from the press.

Mr. Wickwire, if he was an old bachelor, was a fine-looking man, with dark eyes, iron-gray hair and a neatly trimmed moustache. Moreover, his canine follower was not a horrid, mangy dog, by any means,—he was a curly, frolicsome water spaniel, as full of mischief as an

egg is full of meat, and by no means vicious or bloodthirsty.

* * * * *

"There's that dawg, pestering the chickens agin," cried Dinah, wrathfully seizing a broom and giving chase.

Finding himself pursued, the puppy at once released the brown leghorn rooster's tail, which he had been playfully shaking, and with a bark of delight, seized Dinah's red flannel skirt, which showed below

the hem of her dress, and shook it energetically.

The indignant serving-woman beat the ground savagely with the broom, missing the culprit at each lick, however, until she accidentally dropped her weapon. This the puppy immediately seized and scampered off with all his might.

Over the neat, graveled walk, with its tidy border of grass-pinks, over the

round- and heart-shaped flower-beds, here and there he whirled, until at last he espied Teddy, the blue maltese, and dropping the broom gave chase to him. Teddy scrambled up a tree in great terror, and Dinah, seizing the broom, made a dash for the intruder, who, however, scuttled away, leaped the boundary fence and speedily reached the sanctuary of his kennel. While the enemy, panting and breathless, boiling with rage, was compelled to evacuate the battle-ground, which



"DINAH CAME RUSHING OUT, MOP DRIPPING WITH BORAXINE SUDS."

had proved so disastrous to her forces.

Miss Catherine surveyed the ruin that had been wrought, wringing her hands piteously.

"O Dinah, Dinah, my poor flowers are ruined!" she lamented. "All my royal-show pansies, and golden-feathered pyrethrum, and the scarlet nasturtiums are torn to shreds! And I was counting on sending them to the flower-show, after the strawberry-festival was over!"

Miss Catherine's greatest fad was the raising of flowers, and her generosity in lending them when needed for decorative purposes was greatly appreciated by her neighbors.

"Drat dat ar dawg, anyhow," objurgated Dinah, vindictively. "Wish't I had a-knocked his haid plum off, I does!"

* * * * *

"Dinah," called Miss Catherine, a few days later, "What on earth is that dog shaking, right there on our lettuce-bed? It looks some like a door-mat, or rug, and he seems to be tearing it to pieces!"

Dinah dropped the table-cloth that she was shaking at the back door, and flew out to the scene of confusion whither her mistress had preceded her.

The lettuce-bed lay near the division fence, and the dog was prancing over it, growling and shaking some dark object fiercely.

After a desperate struggle the two women succeeded in rescuing all that remained of a man's coat. It was of fine material, dark and heavy, but hopelessly mutilated by the teeth of the mischievous puppy.

"Dear, dear! It's quite ruined," sighed Miss Catherine, holding up the garment and surveying it regretfully. "Too bad—"

As she spoke something fell out of a pocket of the coat. It was a letter. Miss Catherine picked it up.

"Why, Dinah!" she gasped, staring, as if stupefied, at the missive; "it—it is addressed to *me!* At my old home in Greenville! What can it mean?"

"De law!" cried Dinah, practically. "Best way to fin' out is to open it an' read it."

And dreading, expecting, she knew not what, Miss Catherine opened the missive and read:

"My dear Catherine:

"Have just heard of your loss and bereavement. Am coming at once to comfort and care for you. Keep up your courage, little girl, for the sake of

"Your true and devoted lover,

"Archibald Wickwire."

The letter was dated ten years ago.

Miss Catherine grew pale and red by turns.

"The coat! It must belong to the dog's master," she cried hysterically. "Oh, Dinah, if it should be!"

"Gimme dat ar letter, and the coat, too! I'll fine out how dat dawg come by 'em, or I'll know the reason why!" asserted Dinah, determinedly. And with the letter in one hand and the torn garment in the other, she climbed over the division fence, and proceeded to beard the lion in his den.

In less than fifteen minutes thereafter, the old bachelor, coatless and hatless, rushed frantically across the lawn, never stopping till he found himself in the presence of Miss Columbine.

"Catherine! My darling!" he cried. "Did you think me faithless to you?"

Then he explained his long silence, talking almost incoherently, in his eagerness to exonerate himself, while he held his long-lost love close to his heart.

It seemed that he had met with an accident while on the way to mail the letter so fortuitously discovered,

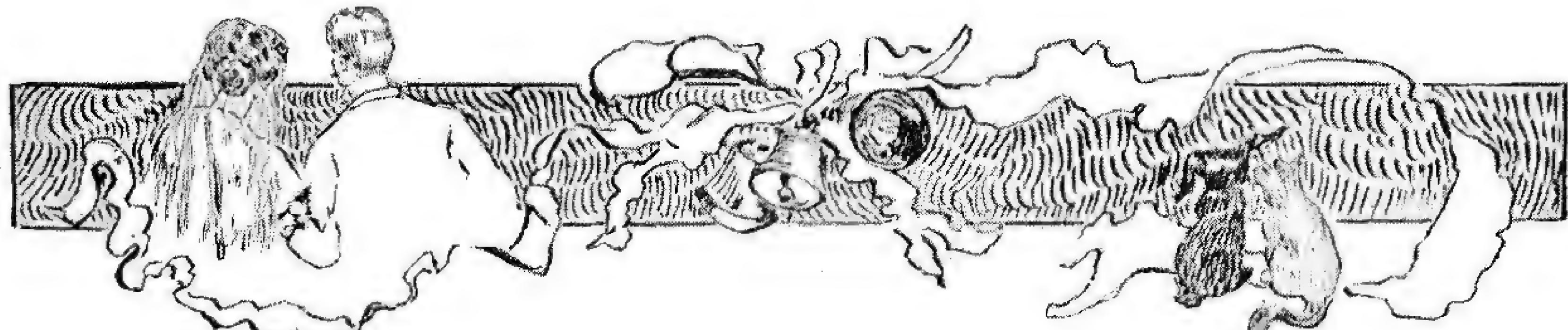
and had been sent to a hospital, where he lay helpless and unconscious for weeks. He had never worn the coat again, and had entirely forgotten the letter—or, at least, he had forgotten that it was not mailed—and had searched unavailingly for his lost sweetheart. How the dog had got possession of the coat, he did not know, but supposed it had been placed on the porch by his man-servant to air with some other garments.

The long-postponed wedding took place without much further delay, and Dinah was delighted to have a share in a genuine love-match.

Indeed, her opinion of old bachelors in general underwent a radical change, and she out-did all her former efforts in the culinary line, in cooking the wedding breakfast.

"Dis am a mos' wond'ful accasion," mused Dinah, as she poured out a teaspoonful of Larkin Vanilla and stirred it into the cake she was making, "but ah reckon dat extrac needunt be 'shamed itsef anywhar."

Even the mischievous puppy was forgiven for all his misdeeds, and received a bountiful portion of the nuptial feast. And in time he and Teddy, the maltese cat, became very good friends, indeed.



EXTENSION OF RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

According to plans made by Postmaster General Wynne, Congress will be asked for an additional appropriation of more than six million dollars for rural free delivery.

* * * * *

The city man, as well as his neighbor in the smaller community, may be inclined to protest against giving scattered rural population a service that costs the one directly benefited but twenty-five cents, while the business centers are obliged to put up over two dollars per capita to insure the service.

As the writer views it, however, and as all view it who are not directly hurt, the farmer is possibly entitled to the rural free delivery system even although it costs the other fellow a little more to keep it up. Until recently, rural residences were most inadequately supplied with the little comforts and conveniences so

common to those in other walks of life. Primarily, the cross-roads store upon which he formerly relied has always been poorly equipped to meet the requirements of the most ordinary. His postal facilities have been miserable, and miles of hard driving were often necessary in order that the weekly paper or a stray letter might reach its destination.

The average farmer is news hungry, and as fond of the ordinary comforts of life as is his city brother. Rural free delivery, among other latter-day conveniences, has put the farmer in direct touch with the rest of the world, and he is justly entitled to receive his mail daily.

If the farmer is the backbone of the nation, can we not afford to give him two dollars a year in order that he may have a little convenience—one which by reason of our long contact with it is not appreciated by us?—*Ad Sense.*



THE LARKIN BOYS' SYMPOSIUM

CONDUCTED BY BORAXINE



DID you ever notice, boys, that about the time the winter begins to break, and warm rains and winds thaw the ice and release the voice of the brooks, there comes over you a longing to be out-of-doors?

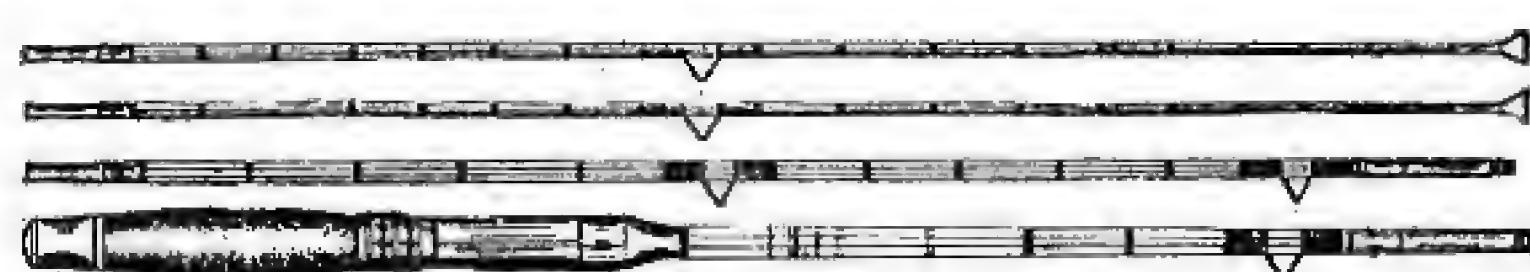
It is then that you bring your fishing outfit from its winter resting-place and overhaul rods, reels, lines, hooks, etc., to be sure that everything is in first-class condition; for you have firmly made up your mind that the first good warm day will find you on the bank of your favorite stream, where the speckled beauties lie.

Then, there is that lake, not far away, where the black bass lurk; if you have the right bait and the day is just right, you can coax a few of them to come home with you.

Black bass are seldom twice of the same mind, so you have to go prepared with a good assortment of bait and lots of patience. I have fished for bass in many places and have caught them with worms, grasshoppers, green frogs, crawfish and trolling spoons. In one lake, they would touch nothing but frogs; in another, nothing but soft-shell crawfish; in some places you have to still fish, and in one ideal spot to which I am wont to go, the only way is to cast for them.

Many of you have seen or used our Fishing Rods, given for one, two or three Certificates, and know that they are well-built, strong and pliable. This year we have a new one to offer you, which we believe will be a winner. It is our No. 11 Casting Rod, $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet long; weighs

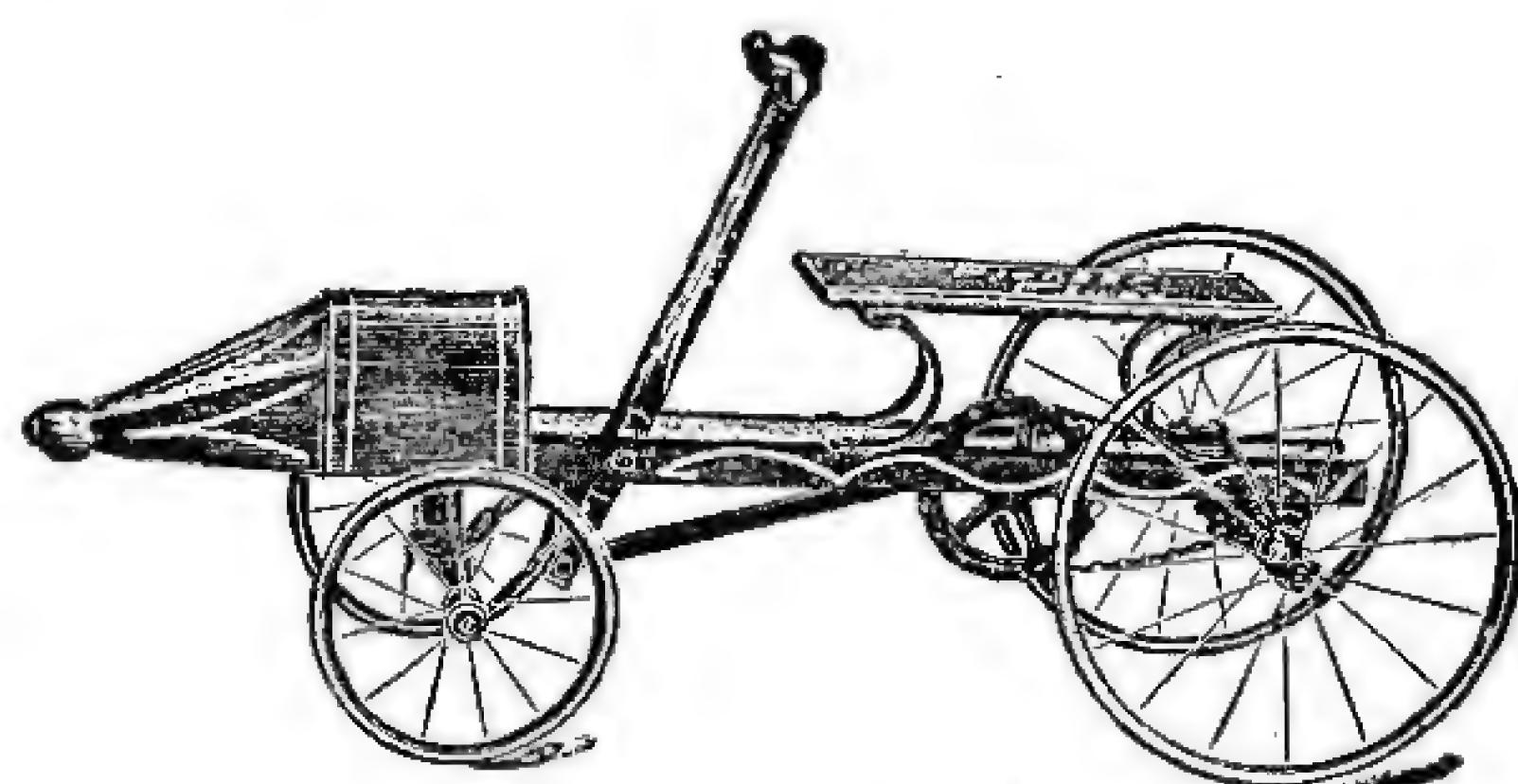
6 oz.; has three sections and an extra tip. The sections are only 23 in. long, so the rod can be easily carried in a suit-case or trunk. It has large standing German-silver



guides, which allow the line to run freely, and cork grasp. It is the latest model in fishing rods and is just the thing for bait casting or still fishing, where a long rod is not needed.

We are going to make some fine offers in outdoor goods in our May Number. There will be baseball goods and tents and camping outfits; so keep your eyes open.

Here is a great Premium for you, something entirely new. A glance at the cut will give you a pretty good general idea of the new Premium. Every wide-awake boy can figure out the possibilities of such a vehicle.



Driving this Hand-Car will be great exercise for the muscles of your arms, back and chest, and it will help you breathe deeply; the exercise is also enjoyable. Then, too, you can get over the ground in lively shape. Given for five Certificates; or free with \$10.00 worth of Larkin Products.



The Larkin Club-of-Ten plan is a progressive idea, in keeping with these progressive times. The evidence is in these letters from those who know.

CHAUTAUQUA ROCKER WINS THE MEN.

Mrs. Bessie Hoppert, Peoria, Ill., writes: "If I can't persuade a woman to join one of my Larkin Clubs-of-Ten I manage somehow to have her husband sit in a Chautauqua Reclining Rocker. That wins the husband and soon I have a new Club member. My Clubs and I thank you."

THE CLUB A SOURCE OF GLADNESS.

Mrs. A. Watson, Revere, Mass., writes: "In October we organized a jolly Club-of-Ten called the Modjeska Club of Revere Highlands, and we enjoy our monthly meetings, at which we serve refreshments and have a general good time.

"We are fond of the Premiums you give, and glad you have added so many nice things for culinary purposes to your list. We like the Larkin Soaps and won't buy any others."

BETTER THAN SHE EXPECTED.

Mrs. Thos. O. Roak, Kingman, Me., writes: "Our Club met and reorganized Nov. 26, 1904, with ten members. We are all well pleased with Soaps and Premiums. I have also organized a new Club-of-Ten. The Clubs meet together twice a month, always at home of consignee, and spend the afternoon. Each hostess serves a bountiful supper. We never tire of admiring

the premiums and think that Larkin Co. is O. K.

"During the four years I have dealt with you, I have sent you \$270.00, have received five ten-dollar premiums and one thirty-dollar premium, besides my Certificate Premiums, and found all nicer than represented to be."

MRS. WELLS' CLUBS ARE PERENNIAL.

Mrs. E. F. Wells, Peoria, Ill., writes: "Enclosed you will find picture of our Larkin Club-of-Ten, called the 'Soap Bubble Club,' and I trust it may appear in THE LARKIN IDEA, which we enjoy reading very much. At our monthly meetings, we have music and speaking; refreshments are always served.

"I have been secretary of two Clubs for three years, and shall continue the work as long as the Larkin Co. gives us the satisfaction it has in the past. Members are highly pleased with the Products and Premiums, which makes my work as secretary very satisfactory."



A LARKIN CLUB-OF-TEN.
Mrs. E. F. Wells, Sec.,
Peoria, Ill.

Coffee Disagrees With No One.



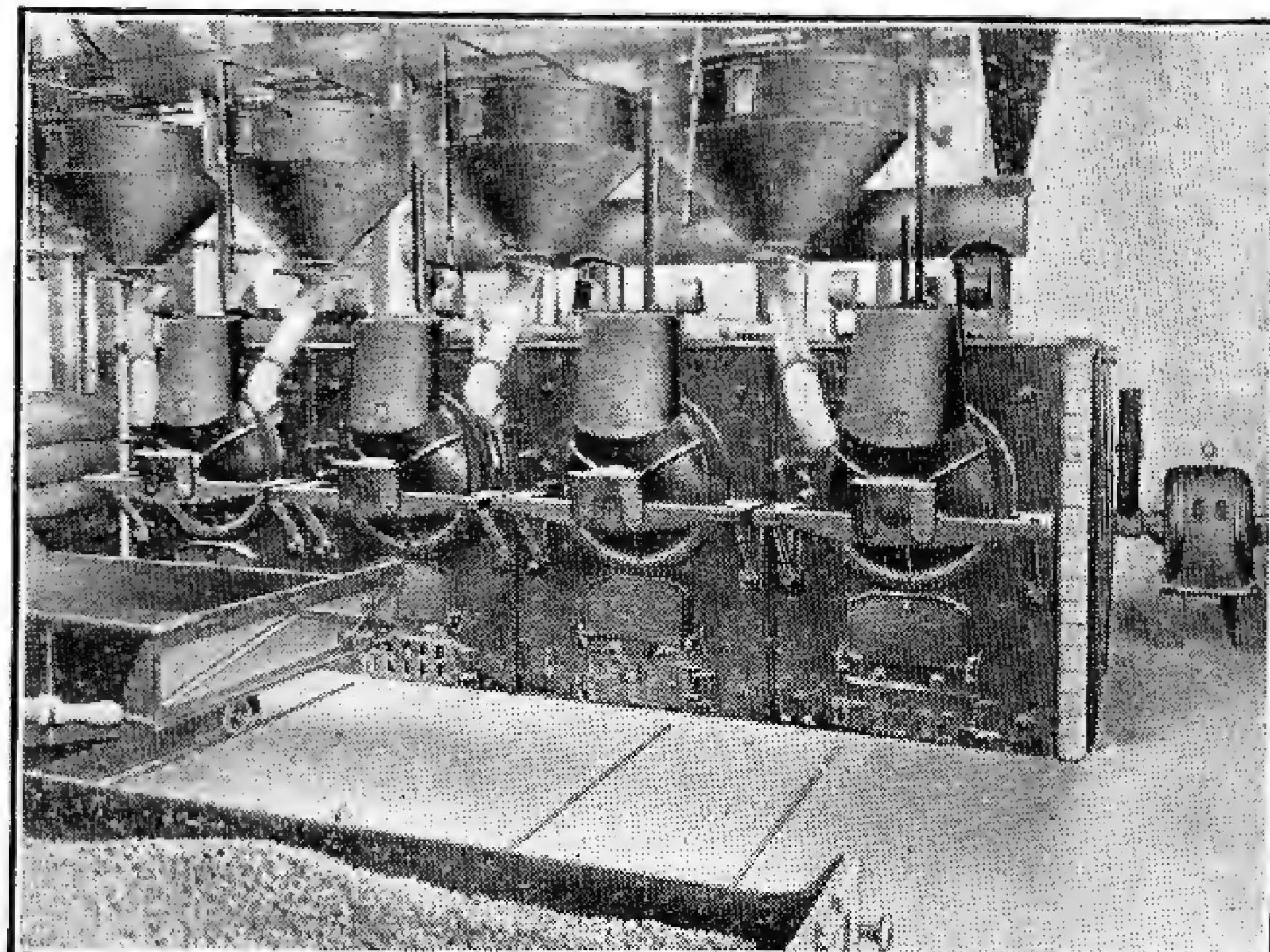
COFFEE agrees in general with all temperaments. Says a government publication: "Everybody can make use of it, but with moderation. Very many healing properties are attributed to it. Well-prepared coffee is, according to Mosley, a preservative against weakness in the stomach, to which it imparts strength, increasing the energy of the vital fluid; it facilitates the digestion, improves indigestion, accelerates the circulation of the blood, decreases the moisture of the body and prevents colic. Mixed with water it is a healthy and tonic beverage, which can be partaken in the climate of the tropics. Coffee is to a certain extent an antiseptic, but above all is it a powerful antispasmodic. Coffee, in a state of decoction mixed with lemon juice, is a popular remedy against certain intermittent fevers. The inhalation of hot coffee or its steam when it is being roasted is the only remedy employed in India for headache, which is very frequent there and more violent than in Western countries. The Turks and Arabs take a great quantity of coffee, it is affirmed, to correct the narcotic effects of opium, of which they make an immoderate use."

"This precious bean, besides its healthful properties, increases the pleasures of life, and now the use of coffee has become an imperious necessity even of the poorest classes of society. Exercising its influence on the stomach and the brain, it has great influence on the intellectual faculties; it inspires joy, dissipates bad humor, which is frequently due

to a bad digestion; it absorbs the vapors of spirituous liquors, and imparts a pleasant odor to the breath. Coffee agrees especially with cold temperaments and with stout, phlegmatic, and sedentary persons, and generally with all whose constitutions expose them to catarrh and stone diseases, which are unknown among Orientals, due to their immoderate use of coffee. Pringle affirms that coffee taken immediately after it has been roasted and ground, in doses of one ounce per cup every quarter of an hour, without milk or sugar, is the best palliative against accesses of periodic asthma. Coffee does not agree with melancholic persons, of a dry, ardent, bilious, and sanguineous temperament, or with persons who have an irritable, nervous system; but light coffee, well made and taken in small quantities, will harm no one."

ROASTING LARKIN COFFEE.

Just step into our Coffee Department when a roast is on—which means at any time now, for we are running full capacity to meet the demand for our new product; it will make you so hungry that you will feel like starting post-haste for dinner. The roasters, grinders and greater parts of the machinery are installed on the top floor of one of our brand-new buildings. The huge room is as scrupulously clean as concrete and hardwood can be made; the walls and concrete ceilings are of snowy white, and numerous windows and a great skylight let in a flood of sunshine. You know how deliciously appetizing is the aroma of a single cup of coffee when the



THE COFFEE ROASTERS.

sun of a bright morning is streaming in upon the spotless linen of your breakfast table. Intensify this many, many fold, and perhaps you can realize something of the attractive atmosphere of the Larkin Coffee Department.

The green coffee reaches us in gunny-bags of about 135 pounds each. It has all been carefully selected and thoroughly cleaned before we receive it. Twenty-five sacks of the different coffees, in the correct proportion to form the Larkin Blend, are poured into a great bin, and everything is ready for the little beans to take their trip through the roasters.

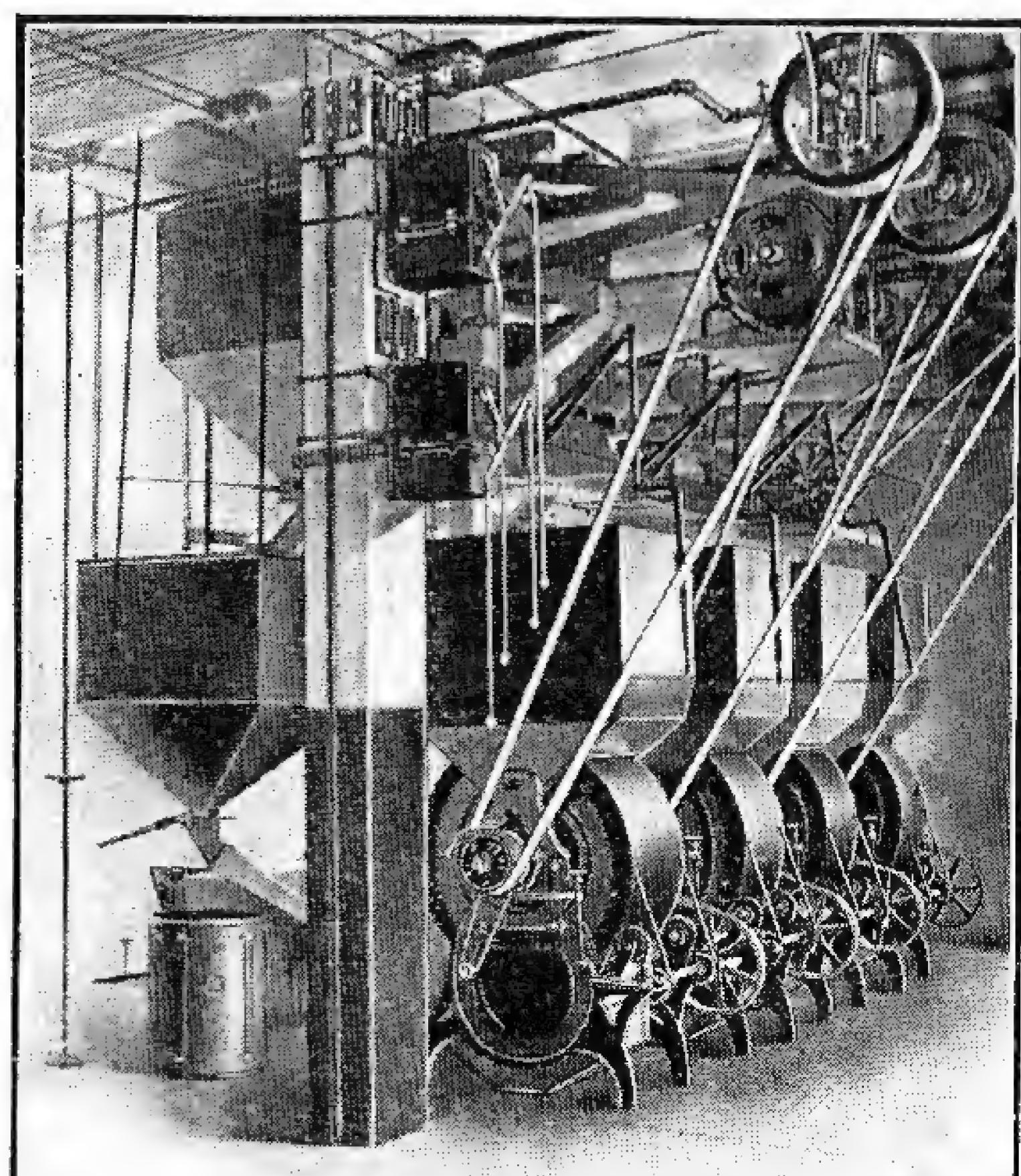
The roaster proper consists of a cylindrical chamber that will hold 300 pounds of coffee-beans. An agitator, by a rotary motion, constantly throws the coffee from one side of the chamber to the other, effecting uniform roasting and guarding the beans from burning. The heat for roasting is supplied by a hard-coal fire, built under the chamber. The gases from the burning coal do not come in contact with the roasting beans. This is important, for coffee-beans, particularly in the green and when roasting, are very absorbent and the gases from the fire would impair the aroma. There are four of these roasters in the Larkin plant. The agitators as well as the rest of the Coffee machinery, are run by

three ten horse-power motors supplied with electricity from our ten-thousand horse-power power-plant.

The bottom of the bin into which the coffee is poured is at the floor of the story below; the green coffee is raised by a pocket elevator, and a large drag conveyor carries it to the hoppers, from which it drops through a pipe into the roasting cylinders.

The front of the cylinder is ingeniously arranged. The opening is in the form of a spout. To receive the coffee, the head of the cylinder is turned up and the pipe from the hoppers joined to it. After the roasting is completed, the head is turned down and the coffee is delivered through it into steel cars. During the roasting, the opening is closed by a copper cover.

In this cover there is a hole about an inch and a half in diameter. The progress of the roasting is closely watched. A tester is inserted through the hole in the cover, and a few of the beans are caught and examined from time to time, until the roasting is completed. As a rule, to roast a charge takes about twenty-five minutes, but the beans



COFFEE GRINDING MILLS.

vary somewhat and they must be removed just at the moment the aroma is developed to the greatest degree. So it is necessary to take these precautions.

The roasted beans are poured from the cylinder into the cooling-car and rapidly spread out to a depth of about six inches. Now the fragrance is at its best and it fills the whole room, but the men at work have little time to enjoy it for the coffee demands attention. It must be cooled, and rapidly, too, or it will continue to roast from the heat it has absorbed while in the chamber. The bottom of the car is perforated. As soon as it is filled with coffee, it is pushed along the track upon which it rests and connected with a pipe through which a current of air is being drawn by a fan that revolves over a thousand times a minute. The fan pulls air through the coffee, at once cooling it.

From the cooling-cars, the coffee is poured through the floor into a large bin from which it is transferred to the stone hopper. In harvesting coffee on the plantation, little stones get into the bags, sometimes only one pebble in a thousand pounds, but they must all be removed. To accomplish this, the beans are diverted from the hopper into a large vertical pipe up which a tremendous current of air is being drawn by the rapidly revolving fan pulling the coffee with it and carrying it to the hoppers of the grinders, or to an auxiliary bin, if it is not to be ground at once. The little stones are too heavy to be

carried by the rush of air, and they fall to the bottom of the pipe.

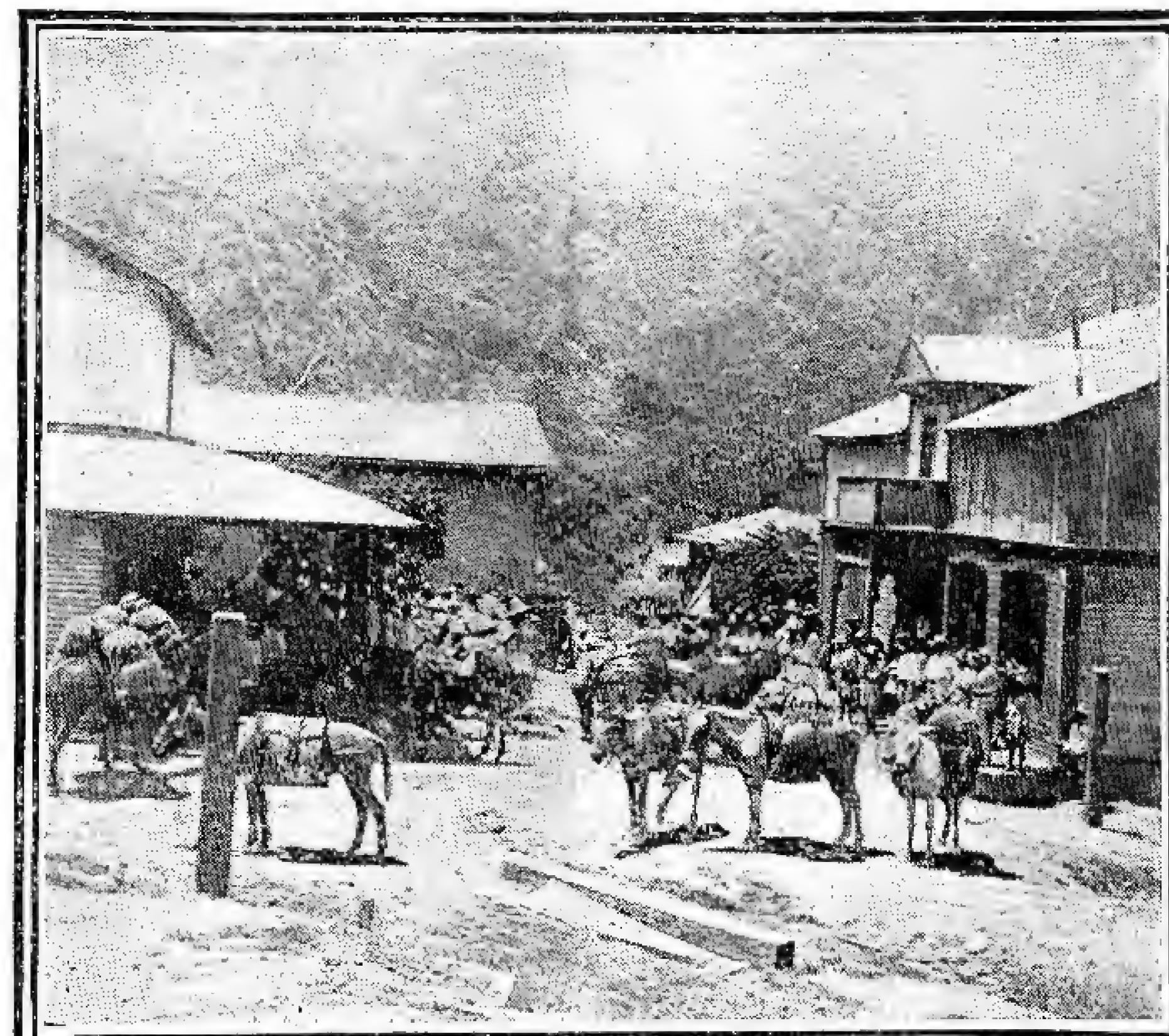
Another air current is used to remove from the coffee minute particles of chaff or dust that sometimes are adhering to it, so that when the beans are delivered to the grinding mills they are perfectly clean. After they have completed their task Larkin 35c. Blend Coffee is ready to be packed for shipment to you.

The pipes from each of the four mills join into one that carries the ground coffee to the weighing and filling machines, four floors below. These machines are little marvels; they will weigh and fill coffee into

twenty one-pound cans a minute. Briefly, their construction is this: supported upon one pan of an accurate scale is a metal box with a trap door in the bottom. Coffee pours into the box from the pipe that leads from the mills; when a pound

has run into it, if the scale is set for a pound, the flow of coffee is automatically diverted into the box on another scale; the trap door is opened and the coffee delivered into a can waiting to receive it. An electrical attachment closes the trap door and starts the coffee running again.

These machines are accurate workers; they fill into each pound can exactly one pound of coffee; into each three-pound can, exactly three pounds of coffee. Sometimes the cans are not quite full. This is because they are of stock size suitable to hold a full pound of any kind



A SOUTH AMERICAN COFFEE WAREHOUSE.

of coffee, and the different coffees vary somewhat in bulk.

After the covers are put on the filled cans, they are carried on an endless belt to the wrapping-table, where nimble-fingered girls affix the beautiful labels that carry with them the Larkin Co.'s guarantee of purity and quality.

THE BEST WAY TO MAKE COFFEE.

The best results are obtained and a delicious cup always served by following these directions :

Use one tablespoonful of Larkin 35c. Blend Coffee to each cup required.

Pour boiling water on coffee in pot.

Be sure the coffee boils, but not longer than from three to five minutes.

Let coffee settle thoroughly before serving.

Always make your coffee strong. *Cafe au lait* (coffee with milk) is much better if made with one fourth strong coffee and three fourths warm milk, than if made half-and-half with a weaker coffee; this is evident. If *cafe noir* is taken after dinner, let it be little and good.

AN END OF TROUBLE.

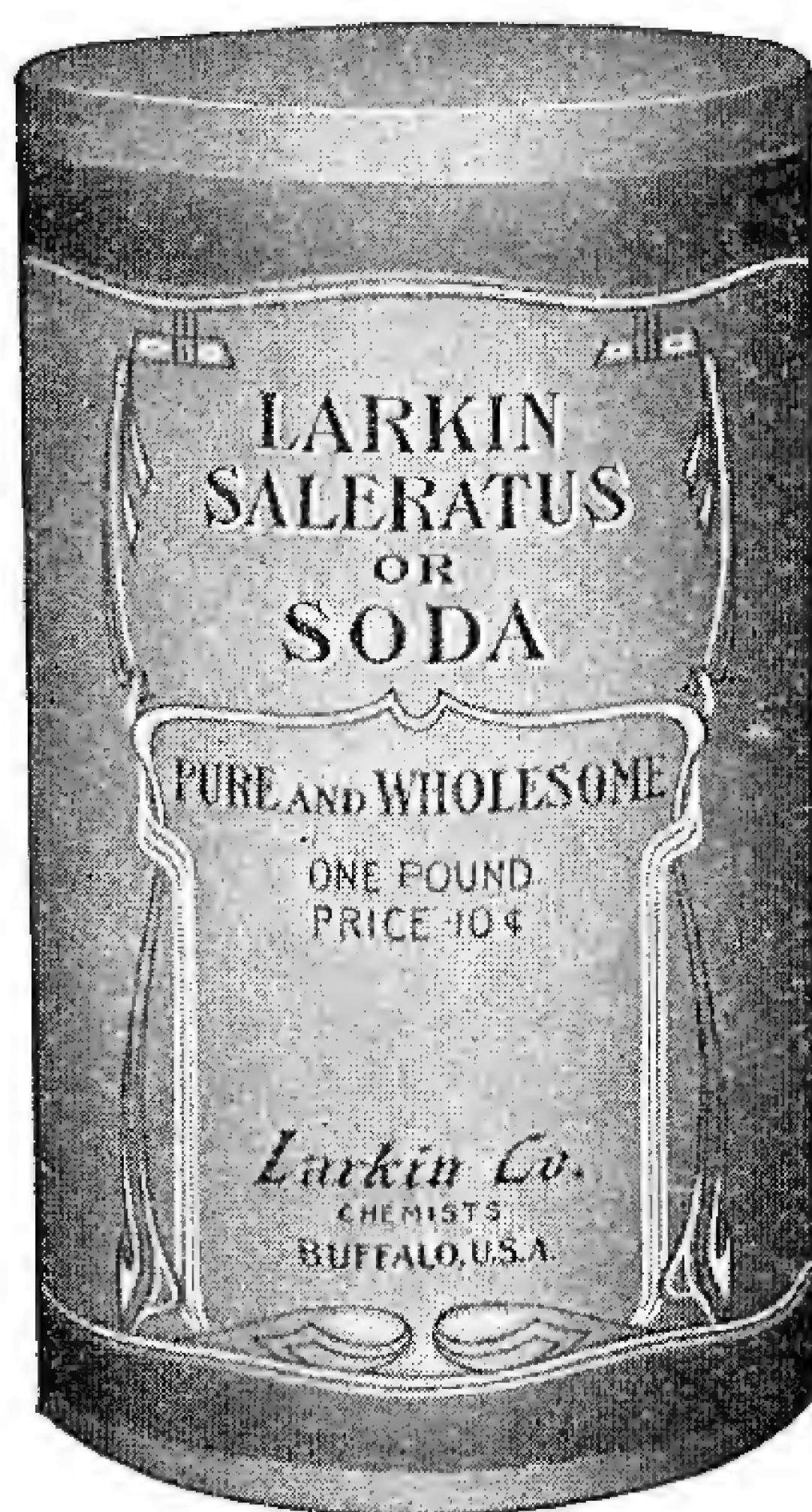
Trouble in the kitchen—

Worry over all ;
Seems to me the household sky
Forbodes a sudden squall.

Mother looks dejected,
As one who's lost all hope ;
Nothing goes to suit her,
Because we're out of soap.

Sing a song of gladness ;
Drayman's at the door
With a box of Larkin Soaps !
All our woes are o'er.

LARKIN SALERATUS OR SODA



Absolutely pure ; unsurpassed for cooking purposes.

Efficient for softening water.

An effective remedy for burns and for acidity of the stomach.

Dissolved in water, it is a cooling lotion for hives or prickly heat.

Per 1-lb. can, 10 cents.

Larkin Co.

BUFFALO, N. Y.



1. LABYRINTH.



2. ANAGRAM.

Seated here, our Club-of-Ten
Are telling of Premiums just received
For kitchen, parlor, bedroom, den,
The finest things that could be conceived.
Chairs, Desks, Divans and Baby Carts,
To suit their hearts' most ardent wishes ;
But here's the one that warmed all hearts—
Just "MINNIE R. GOT CLEAN DISHES."
Just change these letters somewhat around
And Minnie's Premium will be found.

To every boy or girl sending us the correct solution of Nos. 1 and 2 before May 15th, we will mail free of charge, one box of Larkin Violet Talcum. Address Editor THE LARKIN IDEA.

The solutions will be published in THE LARKIN IDEA for June. Solutions will not be acknowledged by letter; corrections or other alterations will not be permitted after solutions have been submitted.

SOLUTIONS TO FEBRUARY PUZZLES.

1. REBUS.

It should be understood,
Henceforth, as in the past, "Larkin" will be
Used as an adjective
Of superlative degree.

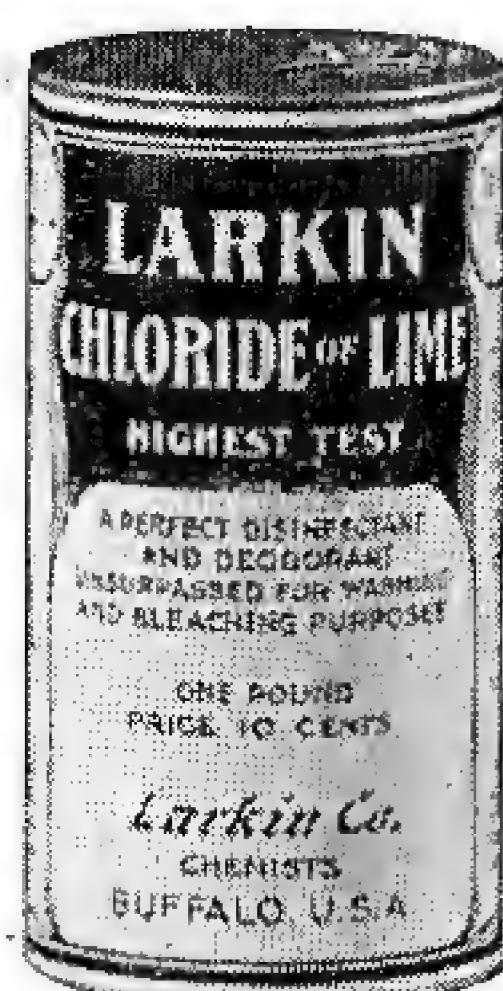
2. REBUS.

A Club-of-Ten invites you
To enter its open door;
For all who try Larkin Products
Are sure to demand more.

3. WORD SQUARE.

S	O	A	P	S
O	M	L	E	T
A	L	T	A	R
P	E	A	C	E
S	T	R	E	W

LARKIN CHLORIDE OF LIME.



To assist the house-wife in her battle for sanitary surroundings, we can now furnish Larkin Chloride of Lime in sifting-top, rotating-cover can. Price, 10c. a full pound.

Larkin Chloride of Lime is of full strength and free from all impurities. The convenient can in which it is packed makes it easily possible to use the powerful disinfectant and deodorant without spilling it. The can is of zinc; the powder, therefore, retains its full strength until the last bit is used.

Larkin Chloride of Lime is a searching cleanser and an effectual disinfecting and deodorizing agent. Its free use about a house will insure the household against unpleasant odors, and the contagious and infectious diseases that propagate in cellars, drains, cesspools, garbage cans, and the many nooks and corners

about a house that are not open to the sweetening influence of sunlight.

Too much care cannot be taken to keep the surroundings of a home clean and wholesome. It is not enough to have the range well polished, the floor well swept and the window panes glistening. The air, too, must be kept pure. Larkin Chloride of Lime will be to the air you breathe as a broom to your carpet. Use it freely.

In addition to its use as a disinfectant, Larkin Chloride of Lime will be found helpful in the laundry in washing and bleaching. Full directions for its several uses are printed on the label of each can.

VERY SLOW, INDEED.

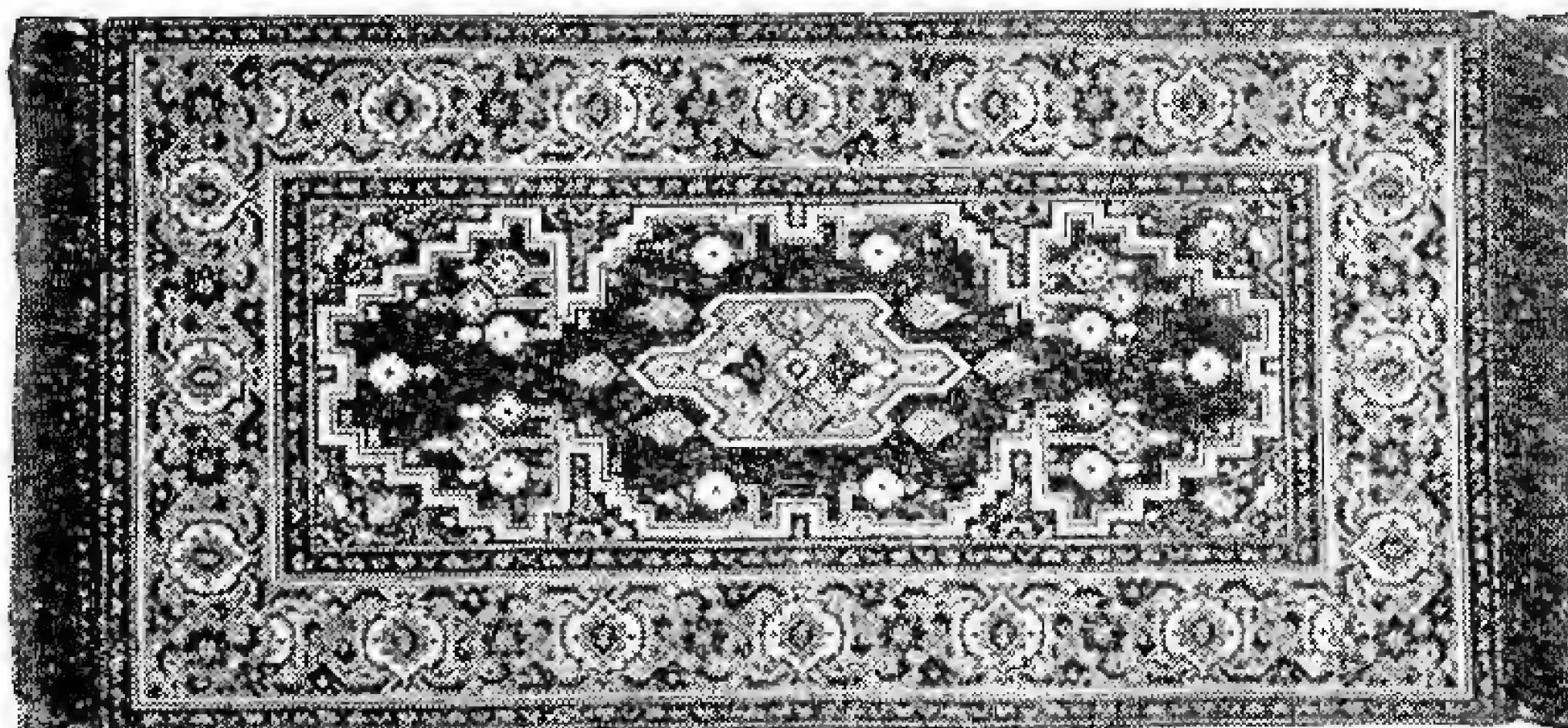
"Do you drink coffee?" asked the doctor of an aged patient.

"Yes," was the reply.

"Coffee," continued the M. D., "is a slow poison."

"Yes, very slow," replied the old man. "I have taken it daily for nearly eighty years."—*Exchange*.

House-Cleaning Hints.



Now that house-cleaning time is again at hand, why not substitute a new rug or two in place of your oldest carpet? Old carpets are not sanitary. Rugs enable you to keep a room absolutely clean with half the effort. If the floor is in fair condition, the exposed portion can easily be painted or varnished at slight expense; or a strip of matting or filling sets a rug off nicely. The Larkin Premium List shows a variety of Rugs and Carpets. They are obtainable with slight effort.

Comparatively few women know that brooms will last much longer if soaked in hot brine every week. The carpet broom should be washed with Sweet Home Soap suds once in ten days, shaken and hung up.

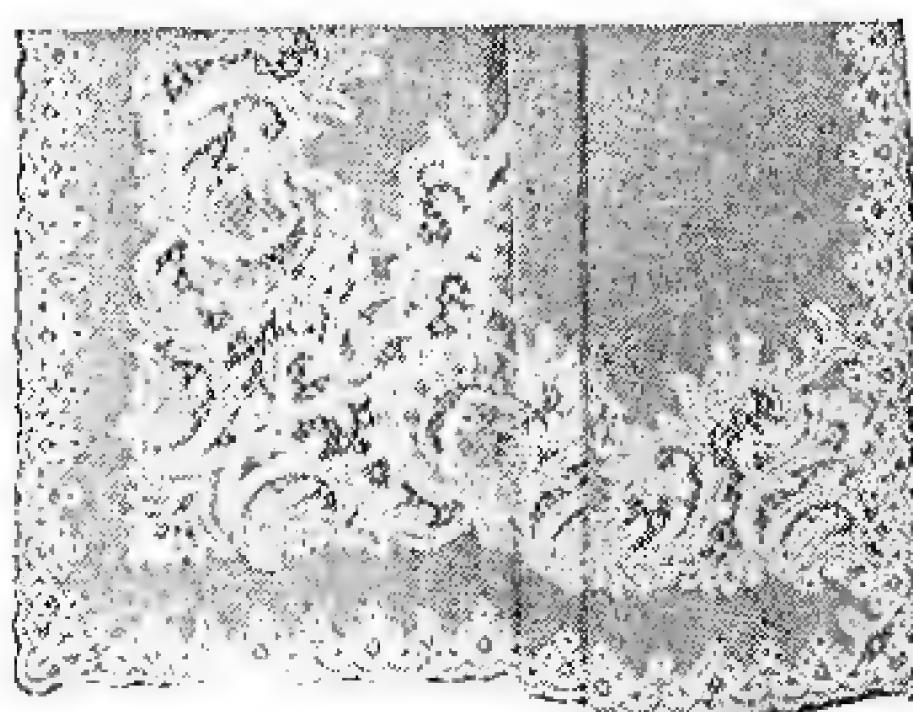
Many housewives waste energy and cause needless dust by using a broom when a carpet sweeper would serve to better advantage. The Chautauqua Carpet Sweeper possesses all the most modern features, including pure bristle brush, dust-proof axle, and braid furniture protecter. Is noiseless; oils itself; handle always stays

tight. Dump will not empty one side on dress of operator. Old English Oak, hand polished, with nickelized trimmings. Given for two Certificates.

How about your Lace Curtains this spring? Think how much new ones

will add to the general appearance of parlor or sitting-room. No. 2864 illustrates a fine, Swiss Net Curtain with spray center and

No. 2864. Romanesque border. In White or Ecru. No. 3418 in Cable Net,



has a plain net center with wide Renaissance border. In White or Ivory. These curtains are 54 in. wide and $3\frac{1}{2}$ yds. long. Two pairs free with a \$10.00 assortment of Larkin Products.



Before putting away the Base Burner or the Oil Heater, be sure to cover every portion of the nickelized surface with Larkin Petroleum Jelly. In this way rusting will be prevented, and the stove will be in excellent condition when cold weather sets in once more.

Now is the time to order a new supply of Boraxine, Sweet Home

and Honor Bright Soaps. You'll need them when you come to give your house its semi-annual cellar-to-attic scrubbing.

The Larkin Premium List contains a complete line of home furnishings. The latest issue, with many new premium offers, will soon be ready; it's brim-full of interest. Send us a postal now, asking for 48th edition, unless you are expecting a case of Larkin Products. A Premium List is packed in every case.

SODA, NOT SOAP, AND THE COFFEE POT.

Carefully cleanse the coffee pot after each use of it. Your coffee will be of a more delicate flavor, if you do.

Once a week give the coffee pot a thorough scrubbing, but do not use soap or hot water. Larkin Saleratus or Soda and cold water will prove more effective.

A KITCHEN ETCHING.

BY AUNT JUDITH.

I know where there's a kitchen—

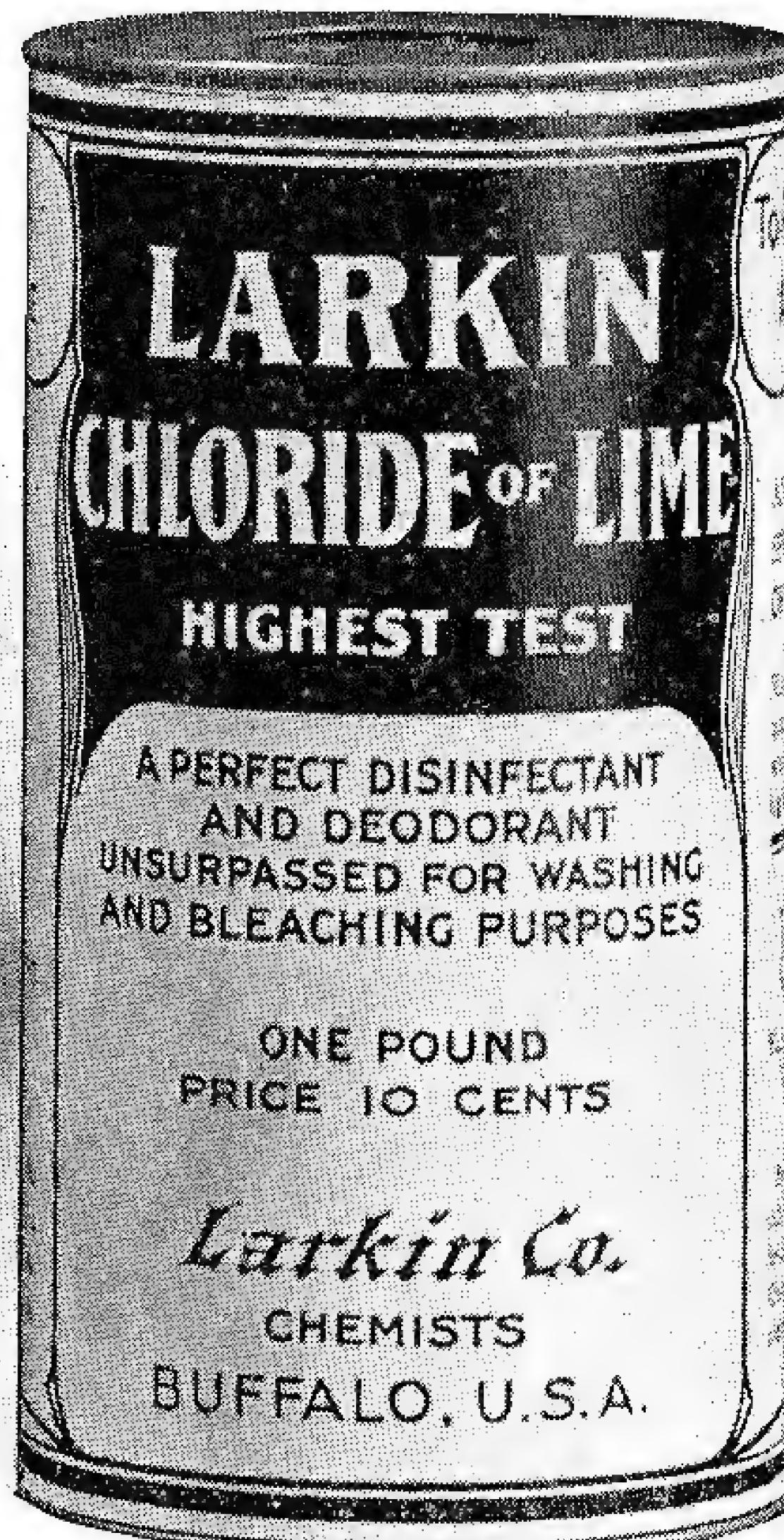
A most delightful place—
That seems a perfect poem;
Around it clings the grace
Of a picture fancy painted,
With nought to mar the spell
Of the brush that limned the beauty
That fits the subject well.

The floor is white and spotless;
The walls are free from dust;
The tins about the cupboard
Are innocent of rust.
The curtains at the windows
Are dainty as a dream,
And the window-panes like crystal
In the summer sunlight gleam.
"What makes the place so charming?"

They often ask of her
Who is home's ruling spirit;
And then the dimples stir
As the housewife gives her answer,
A laugh and smile between,
"One word tells all the story;
That word is 'Boraxine,'"

LARKIN CHLORIDE OF LIME

HIGHEST TEST



Purifies sick-rooms and prevents the spread of contagious or infectious diseases.

Destroys all noxious odors.
Unequaled for bleaching linens.

Per 1-lb. can, 10 cents.

Larkin Co.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

FOR WOMEN'S WEAR.

A feature of the latest Larkin Premium List is the offer of women's wearing apparel, consisting of up-to-date Walking Skirts, Petticoats, Underwear, Hosiery and Shoes.

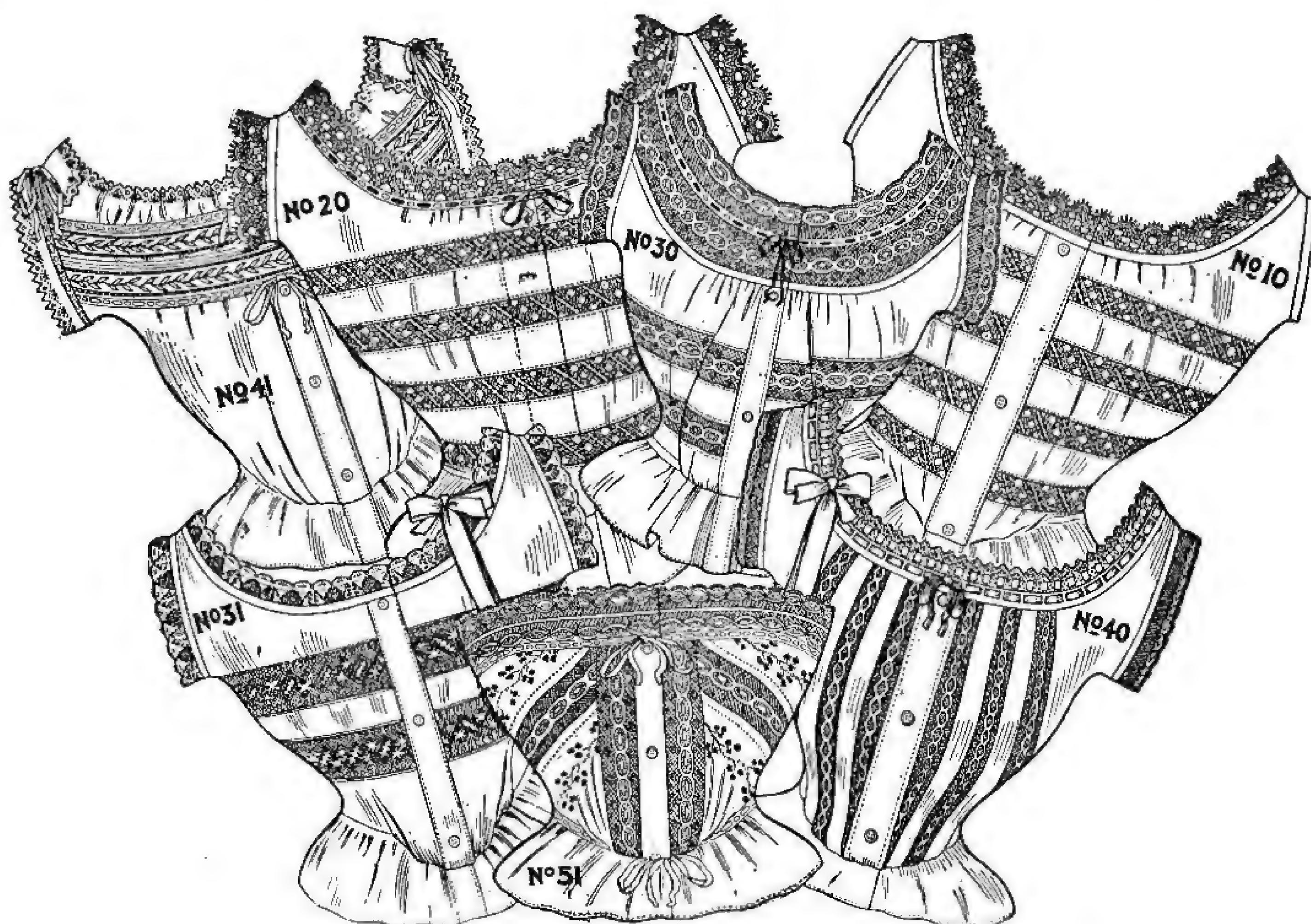
These dainty Corset Covers may be ordered in sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44.

No. 10. Muslin. Front has 4 rows of 1-in. Valenciennes insertion; neck edged with lace. One-piece back. Two given for one-half Certificate.

and armholes trimmed with lace. Three given for one Certificate.

No. 41. Cambric. Front trimmed with 2 rows Swiss insertion; 2 rows ribbon beading. Neck and armholes trimmed with Swiss embroidery to match. One given for one Certificate.

No. 51. Handkerchief Corset Cover. Made of three fine, hem-stitched and embroidered handkerchiefs and 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. Val. insertion. Lace and ribbon beading at waist line and top. Shoulder straps of No.



No. 20. Nainsook. Four rows 1-in. Val. insertion, front and back. Neck finished with lace and ribbon beading; lace around armholes. One given for one-half Certificate.

No. 30. Cambric. Front has 2 rows of 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. fine Val. insertion; 3-in. Val. lace, insertion and beading at neck; armholes edged with lace. One given for one-half Certificate.

No. 40. Cambric. Front has 6 rows of 1-in. Val. insertion; back 18 fine tucks. Neck finished with lace and ribbon beading; armholes edged with lace. One given for one-half Certificate.

No. 31. Cambric. Front has 2 rows 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. Torchon insertion. Neck

5 satin taffeta ribbon. One given for one Certificate.

In our Hosiery very special attention is given to the quality of the yarn and the dyeing. All-black, seamless hose, in sizes 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10.

No. 0. Four pairs given for one-half Certificate.

Knit of combed Peeler Cotton; double heels and toes. Weight, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. to the dozen.

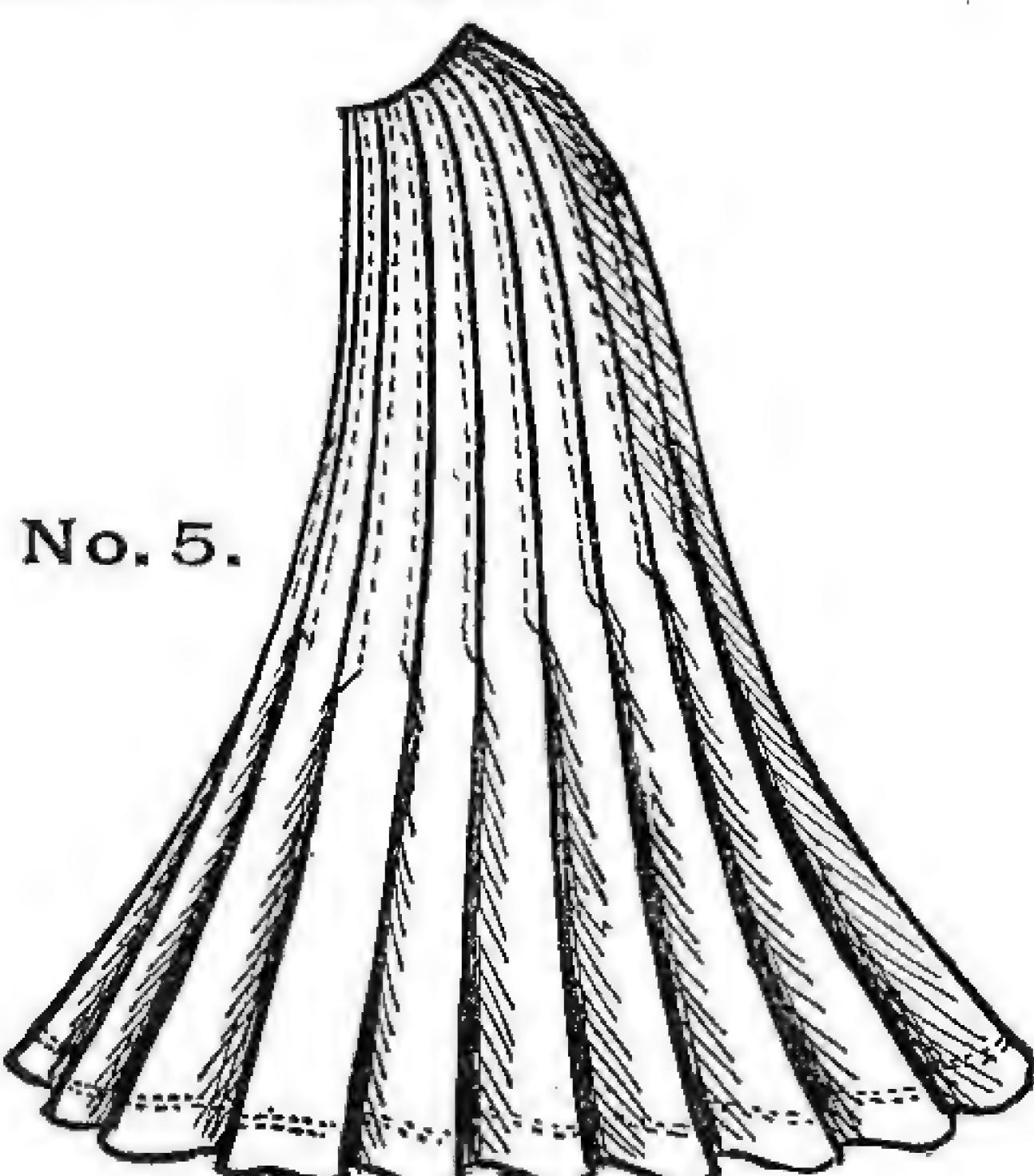
No. 1. Six pairs for one Certificate.

Knit of two-thread combed Egyptian Lisle; three-thread heels and toes; 40 gauge. Weight, 2 lbs. to the dozen.

No. 11. Knit of two-thread combed Egyptian Cotton; three-thread heels and toes. Weight, 2 lbs. to the dozen.

No. 21. Same as No. 1, except have lace front.

The all-wool Cheviot Walking Skirt illustrated would do credit to any woman's wardrobe.



We have it in Black or Blue Cheviot; Black, Blue or Brown Panama; also in an extra heavy, pure Mohair Sicilienne, in Black, Blue or Brown.

The Skirt is developed with nineteen gores that give perfect adjustment over the hips and just the right flare at lower edge.

Free with \$10.00 worth of Larkin Products.



This design represents the Sorosis Black Sateen Petticoats, which

received the gold medal at St. Louis. The workmanship is unexcelled, as perfect inside as out.

These Petticoats are made of a good quality of Mercerized Sateen; have strapped seams, bound edges and hemmed ruffles; yoke top gives a perfect fit over the hips; full flounce, a wide flare at the bottom.

Can be had in the following lengths: 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 inches. One given for one Certificate.

Our Shoes and Oxfords for women are made according to our specifications, especially for us, by one of the oldest, most reliable factories in the United States. The kid stock, sole leather, heels, counters, insoles, linings, tips and thread are the best that can be bought.

They are made in correct styles by skilled shoemakers. They represent the very best Shoes that brains and good leather can produce. Two pairs of extra long strings go with every pair.

In ordering, give size and width. Sizes, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 8; widths, A to EE. All have military heels.



One pair given for two Certificates.

No. 12. Fine Kid with patent-leather tip. McKay sewed extension sole.

No. 22. Blucher style. Fine Kid with patent-leather tip and heel-foxing; flexible McKay sole.

No. 72. Court Tie Oxford. Three large eyelets. Patent-leather tip, dull top. Goodyear welt, extension sole.

One pair given for three Certificates.

No. 3. Selected Kid stock with patent-leather tip; belting-leather insoles; Goodyear welt, extension sole.

No. 23. Blucher style. Selected Kid stock with patent-leather tip, dull kid top. Goodyear welt, extension sole.

JAPANESE LOVE SONG.

She was a maid from Japan,
He was the son of Choo Lee:—
She had a comb and a fan,
And he had two chests of tea.
She wore a gown picturesque,
While he had a wonderful queue,—
Her features were not statuesque,
Which matter'd but little to Choo,
 to Choo,
Which matter'd but little to Choo.
He smiled at her over the way,
She coquettred at him with her fan;—
“I mally you,—see ?” he would say
To this queer little maid of Japan.
And day after day she would pose
To attract him, her little Choo Lee,
All daintily tipped on her toes,
This love of a heathen Chinee, Chinee,
This love of a heathen Chinee.
But fate was unkind to them, quite,
For he never could reach her, you see,
Tho' she always was there in his sight,
And she look'd all the day on Choo Lee;
For a man mayn't do more than he
 can,
Tho' a maiden may languishing be,—
When she is a maid on a fan,
And he's on a package of tea, of tea,
And he's on a package of tea,—ah !

—Anon.

LARKIN TEMPORARY SHOWROOM.

During the past month the Larkin Temporary Showroom has held

exhibitions in five New York towns, Dunkirk, Olean, Hornellsville, Elmira and Binghamton. Everywhere the display meets with most cordial reception, binding closer our friendship with old customers and acquainting many with the practicability of the Larkin Idea and the advantages of dealing with us.

The Press in each town has treated us with justice and kindness. A recent edition of the *Elmira Star* says:—

“It has been many years, if ever, that a display as attractive as that of the Larkin Co. at 111 Railroad Ave. has been seen here.

“The object of the exhibition is to demonstrate how purchasers of these famous products may furnish a home completely, cozily and elegantly, without adding to their daily living expenses.

“This has been proved to be possible in thousands of instances in nearly every section of the country, through the Larkin principle of direct Factory-to-Family dealing, whereby the profits of the middlemen are eliminated, and the saved profits given to the customer in the shape of a beautiful premium.

“Visitors are astonished at the remarkably high quality of these premiums, even though knowing the high standard set by the Company for all of its goods.”

After leaving Binghamton the Temporary Showroom will hold exhibitions in the following places: Ithaca, April 3 to April 8; Cortland, April 10 to April 15; Rochester, April 17 to May 6. Then other towns and cities will be visited, schedule to be announced later.

NOT 55 CENTS.

Don't mistake the 35c. on back cover page of the March number for 55c. Larkin Coffee is 35c. per full pound can; per 3-lb can \$1.00.

THE PRIZE PHOTOGRAPH CONTEST.

In the Contest that closed March 15th, the following prizes were awarded:

Genre Subjects,
First Prize, \$2.00,
Bertha A. Partridge, Stockton Springs, Me.

Genre Subjects,
Second Prize,
\$1.00, Julia L. Sutliff, Cherry Valley, N. Y.

Landscape,
First Prize, \$2.00,
Mrs. Harvey G. Strong, Amherst, Mass.

Landscape,
Second Prize,
\$1.00, Mrs. J. R. Hatch, Clifftondale, Mass.

MONTHLY CONTESTS.

These monthly Contests are open to all possessors of cameras obtained from Larkin Co.

They open on the 15th of each month and close the 15th of the following month. Announcement of awards is made in first number of THE LARKIN IDEA issued after date of closing.

The prizes for Landscapes are:
First Prize, \$2.00; Second Prize,
\$1.00; for Genre Subjects, First
Prize, \$2.00; Second Prize, \$1.00.

There are no restrictions in regard to the number of photographs submitted by one contestant, or the frequency with which one takes part.

Prints finished in any style except blue print will be considered.

Prize winning photographs become the property of Larkin Co.; all others will be returned, if accompanied by stamps to cover postage.

Mark clearly upon the back of each photograph your name and address, the title of the photograph, the name of the camera with which it was taken, and the Contest in which you wish to submit it.

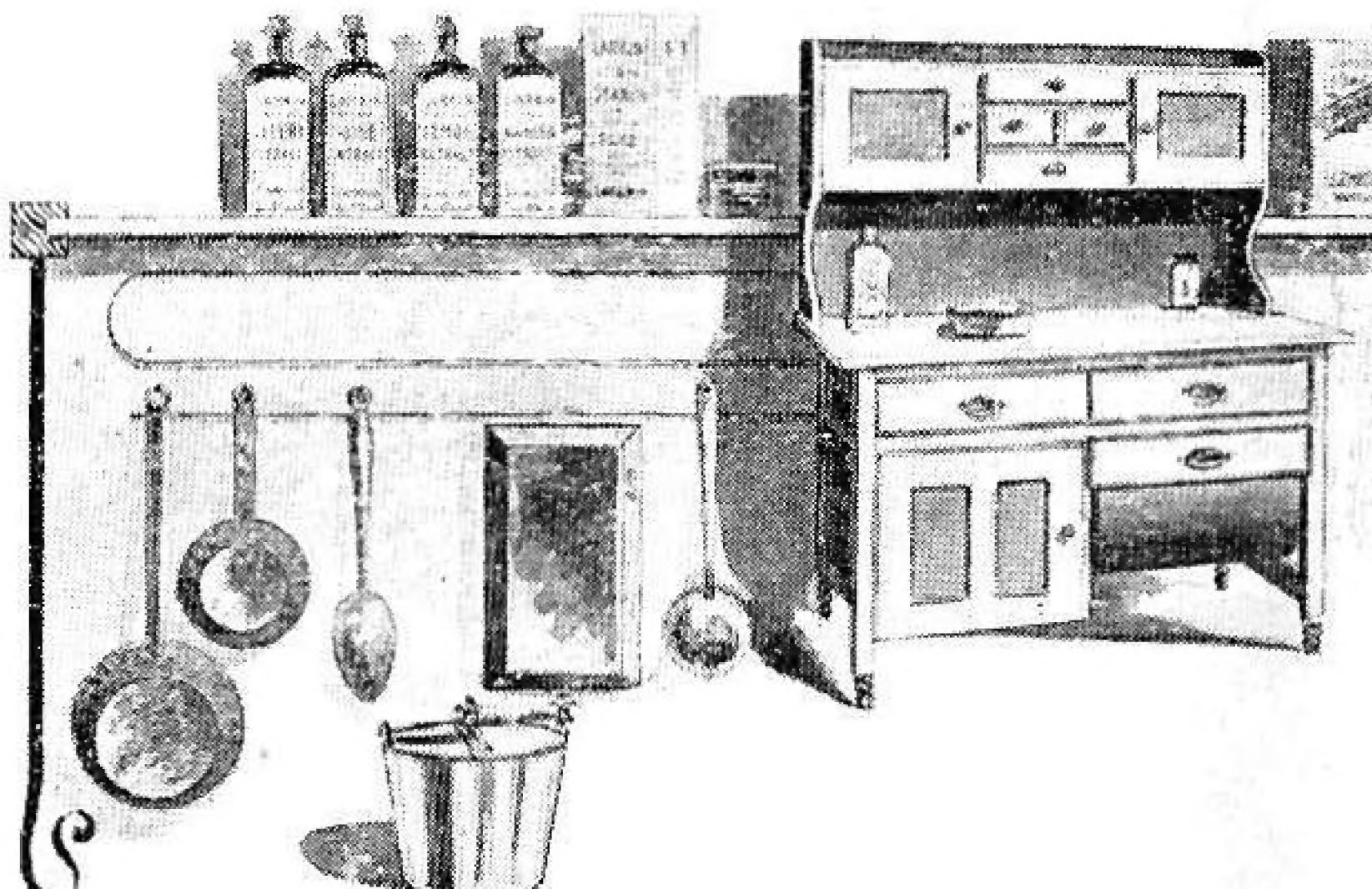
Address all photographs to Editor THE LARKIN IDEA, Larkin Co., Buffalo, N. Y.



"THE ROAD."
Awarded First Prize of \$2.00 for Landscapes in March Contest.
Taken with our Seneca Camera by Mrs. Harvey G. Strong, Amherst, Mass.



"THE VESPER-SONG."
Awarded First Prize of \$2.00 for Genre Subjects in March Contest.
Taken with our Chautauqua Camera by Bertha A. Partridge, Stockton Springs, Me.



HASTE MAKES WASTE.

Comparatively few women who do their own work know how to take it easy "between whiles"; but it is a trait worth cultivating. Have a comfortable rocking chair convenient, and sit down every time your work will permit. There are dozens of things you can do in this position, and the change, even for a few moments, is a decided rest. Another restful thing is a pad of cloth to stand on while washing dishes or ironing. While in the kitchen, wear well-fitting shoes that support the ankles.

Form the habit of lying down a few minutes every day, even if you cannot sleep. Unless you have tried this, you have no idea how it will refresh you. During this interval



let go all hurry and worry thoughts and unbend-bearing in mind that the bow that is always strung soon loses its spring. These little economies of strength mean much, and if people better understood this art,

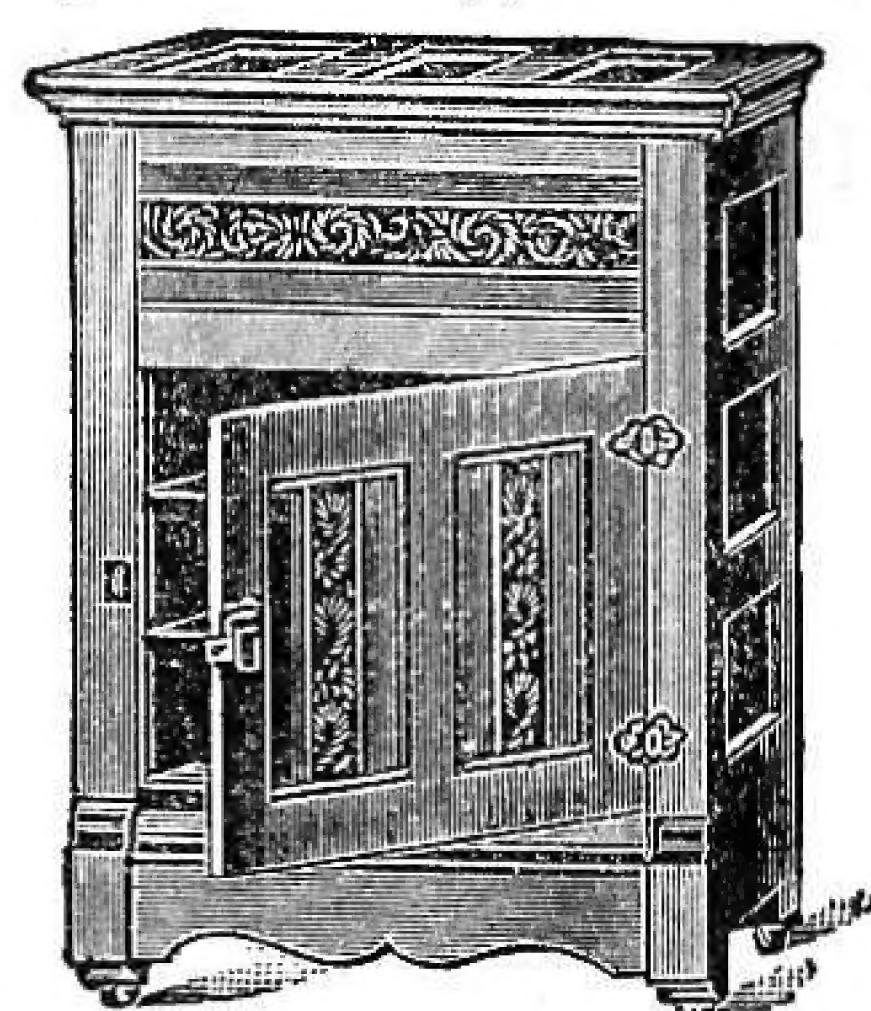
THE LARKIN Kitchen Laboratory.

there would be more real happiness and fewer cases of nervous breakdown.

The pantry is an excellent provision for storing extra dishes; but it is a mistake to keep flour, spices, extracts and other cooking ingredients there. A Larkin Kitchen Cabinet will save the weary housewife countless steps; no kitchen is quite complete without one. It is made of hard, White Maple, with gloss finish. Base has Whitewood top. Can be had for nine Certificates, or free with \$18.00 worth of Larkin Products. Without cupboard top, will be sent for five Certificates; or free with \$10.00 worth of Larkin Products.

A small cup filled with vinegar and placed on the back of the stove will prevent the smell of cooking from permeating the house.

Proper care of the refrigerator is an important point in the sanitary home. This receptacle ought to be cleaned thoroughly twice a week, and wiped out every day. The waste-pipe leading from the ice chamber may become clogged with particles of food, and unless they be carefully removed, the dripping of the melted ice is sure to form a slimy coat on which the germs of fermentation thrive. A strong solution of Larkin Pure Potash or Lye should be poured down this pipe at least twice a week. If you want a high-grade refrigerator, you can easily obtain one. The Larkin Premium list offers a choice of four.



— EXTRA SUPER —

INGRAIN CARPETS

MATCHED AND SEWED

ALBION, All-Wool. One and one-half yards given for one Certificate. Seven and one-half yards given for five Certificates; or free with \$10.00 worth of Larkin Products. For each *additional* one and one-half yards, without Products, add \$1.00; for each *additional* one and one-half yards with \$2.00 worth of Products, add \$2.00.

GOLD EAGLE, All-Wool Filling, Cotton Chain. Two yards given for one Certificate. Ten yards given for five Certificates; or free with \$10.00 worth of Larkin Products. For each *additional* two yards, without Products, add \$1.00; for each *additional* two yards with \$2.00 worth of Products, add \$2.00.

See Premium List for complete description of all Carpet offers.

A high-class, reversible, Extra Super Ingrain Carpet of extra heavy weight and full count, 36 in. wide. In the Albion, the warp is worsted; in the Gold Eagle, the warp is cotton. The filling in both is all wool.

Choice of eight selected patterns of demonstrated popularity, in both grades. Order by number.

No. 19. Clusters of finely shaded flowers, joined by an outline scroll of red, enclosing finer floral work, relieving an ecru ground. The groundwork is a small diamond-shape design of red and ecru.

No. 26. A delicate scroll of rich gold, worked from a ground of deep olive green. An excellent pattern for halls and stairs. **Furnished in 22½-in. or 27-in. widths, if desired.**

No. 43. The pattern is a large floral scroll in shades of tan and brown, brought out on a deep rich green ground, giving a general oak-and-green effect.

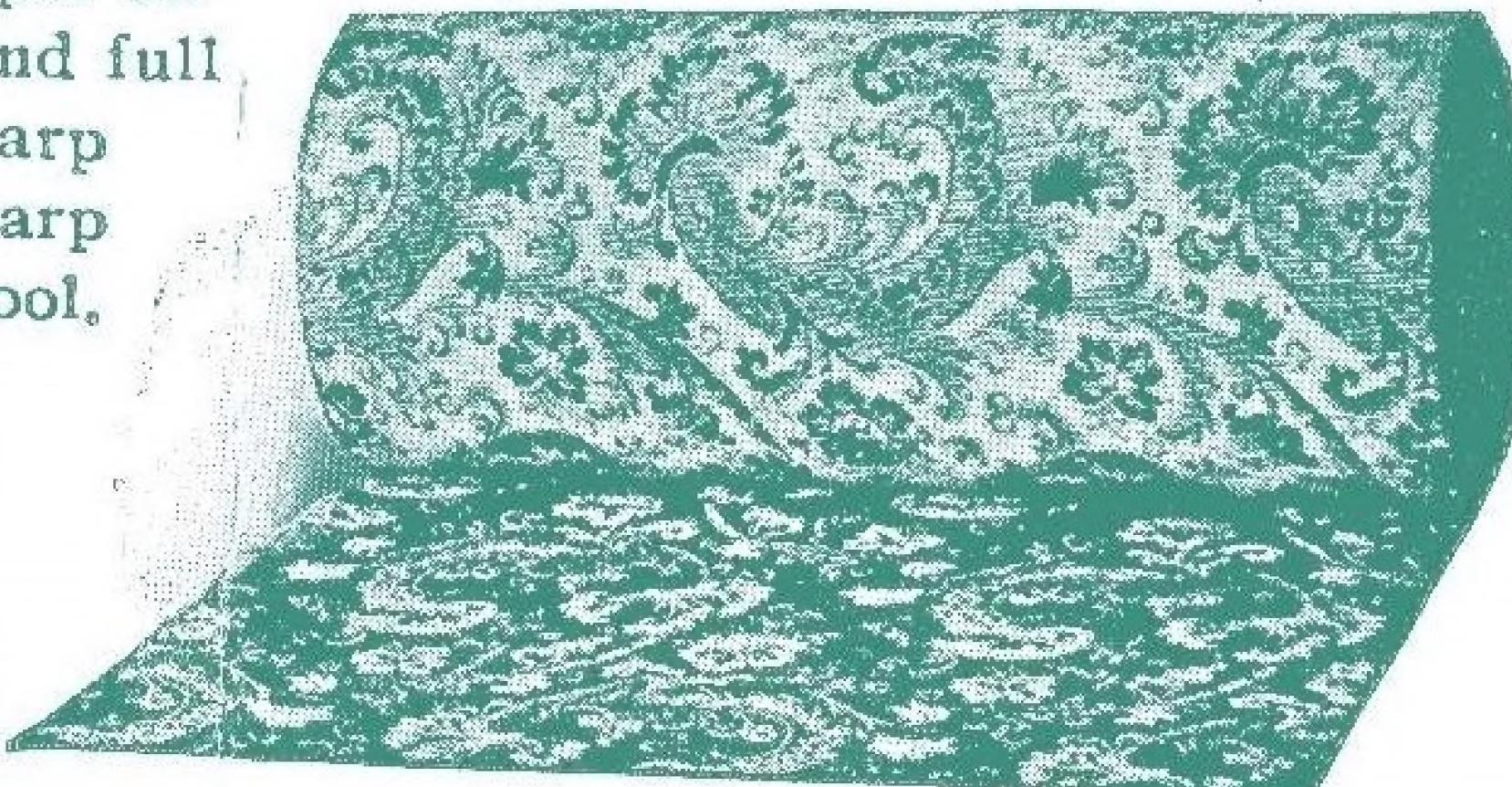
No. 47. Small floral design encircled by neat scroll in relief. Fine empire red ground with scroll and flowers in a tasteful combination of green, red and white.

No. 53. Large floral scroll. Red predominates in background, worked up in a small check effect with green and white, relieved by a scroll of light green, intertwined with a floral design in red with dark green leaves.

No. 67. The color scheme of this Carpet is a three-tone combination of green and white, in a filigree scroll that unites groups of leaves in white, appearing on a background of deep green.

No. 79. The general color effect is maroon and gold. The sub-design is novel, the design proper, being a leaf and flower combination supported by a rococo scroll.

No. 98. A medallion effect produced by fine broken scroll enclosing bouquet of flowers. The general tone is ecru and green, strengthened by the insertion of a deep red worked into the shading of the flowers.



Larkin St., **Larkin Co.** Buffalo, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED, 1875.

